

# HISTORY OF DOOR CO.

CLARKE PUBLISHING COMPANY  
MAKING DELIVERIES.

Historical Volume Most Complete In  
Every Respect—Compiled By H.  
R. Holand of Ephraim.

F. E. Wilson, representative of the Clarke Publishing Company of Chicago, has been in the county during the present week in charge of the delivery of the "History of Door County," published by the Clarke Company of Chicago, to the people who purchased the work.

The work is published in two volumes. Vol. 1 containing the history of Door County. Vol. 2 many biographical sketches of residents of the county. Volume one was compiled entirely by Hjalmar R. Holand of Ephraim, and the biographical sketches in volume two were written by men employed in that work by the Clarke Publishing Company.

The History of Door County as compiled by Mr. Holand will be a standard reference work for many years to come. Mr. Holand spent practically two years on the work, searching the records of all land patents issued by the government, studying the records of the county since its organization, going to Madison several times to look up data in reference to the county in its early history, and delving into the past until he has brought forth a historical volume that representatives of the Clarke Publishing Company, who have made this class of work a specialty for years, claim that it has no equal in the long list of county histories which they have published.

The history starts with a general view of Door County and the discovery of Door County and the west, down to the present time, covering 460 pages 7x10. It is illustrated with beautiful half tone cuts which are printed on enameled paper, showing views back in the early days of the county, down to the present time.

The biographical volume contains brief sketches of men who have been prominent in the past history of Door County, and many of the men who are prominent in its affairs at the present time. It is also beautifully illustrated with engravings of many of the prominent citizens of the county in the past and those of the present day.

The two volumes are bound in leather, have a very neat typographical appearance, and is a work that the people of Door county can well be proud of.



Hjalmar Ruel Holand

HISTORY OF  
**DOOR COUNTY**  
WISCONSIN

THE COUNTY BEAUTIFUL

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By HJALMAR R. HOLAND, M. A.

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ILLUSTRATED

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VOLUME I

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CHICAGO  
THE S. J. CLARKE PUBLISHING COMPANY  
1917

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HJALMAR R. HOLAND

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## PREFACE

In presenting the following history of Door County to the public I realize that it is a very incomplete record of the county's past. A thorough study of the historical material of Door County reveals so many features and events of interest that to compress them all within the narrow limits of a volume of this size is impossible. In spite of the fact that the present volume greatly exceeds in size the work originally planned by the publishers and the author it was necessary to reject much material that should have found a place in the history. Whether the selection of material has been wisely made is problematical.

As this is the first history of Door County that has been written, I have had no earlier pioneers in this work to assist me in blazing a trail. To be sure there was a small pamphlet published in 1881 by Charles I. Martin containing considerable biographical data about some persons then living in the county. The selection of the persons mentioned in this pamphlet seems, however, to have been based on the subscription list of the newspaper of which Mr. Martin was editor, and the dates contained in this pamphlet are frequently so incorrect that I found it was necessary to use caution in referring to them. It has, however, been of value in looking up certain pioneers and I hereby acknowledge my obligations to Mr. Martin's little work.

Of far greater historical value have been the files of the Advocate, which are all preserved intact by the Advocate Printing Co. from the first issue in 1862. Every number of this periodical has been carefully perused by me and a great deal of historical information has been obtained from it. I am very much obliged to the publishers of the Advocate for according to me free access at all times to its invaluable files.

Besides the files of this and other newspapers I have also carefully searched the record of all land patents issued by the Government in this county; I have studied all the Proceedings of the County Board of Supervisors; the records of many of the oldest church organizations in the county; private letters and memoirs; and interrogated all the old pioneers of the county still living—in short, I have endeavored

## PREFACE

as diligently and patiently as possible to acquaint myself with all available sources of our history.

I desire to take this opportunity of thanking the hundreds of old pioneers and present men of prominence who have so kindly assisted me in compiling the present work. Particularly am I under obligations to the clergymen of Door County for their great assistance in preparing the important chapter on the churches of Door County; to the late Mr. Allen Higgins for compiling the list of civil war soldiers who enlisted from Door County; to Mr. Frank Wellever and H. J. Sanderson for great assistance in compiling the chapter on the political history of Door County; to Mr. Millard Tufts for most of the information contained in the chapter on Door County schools; and to the Advisory Board of this history for their ever ready assistance and counsel whenever requested.

In concluding my work of writing the history of Door County I do so with a feeling of regret. While the work at times has been arduous it has at no time been irksome, but has throughout the two years in which I have been engaged upon it been a labor of love. I like nothing better than to gather up the tangled threads of our early pioneers' struggles and experiences and to weave (or, at least, attempt to weave) out of them a fabric of dignity which may reveal how greatly we esteem the struggles of those dauntless pioneer men and women who conquered the wilderness and made it the splendid county we have today.

HJALMAR R. HOLAND.

Cedar Hill, October 1, 1917.

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# History of Door County

## CHAPTER I

### GENERAL VIEW OF DOOR COUNTY

Door County is unique in several important aspects. Chief among these features are its geography, climate and scenery.

In its geographical outlines Door County is unlike any other county in the state, consisting of a long narrow peninsula having a sinuous shore line of more than two hundred miles in length. The extreme length of the peninsula with the outlying islands is about seventy-five miles; while the width varies from about fifteen miles in the south end of the county to about three miles in the north.

This peninsula consists in the main of a high lying ridge of Niagara limestone, surfaced by a covering of soil which almost everywhere is thick enough to produce a very luxuriant growth of timber or abundant field crops. The underlying rock is everywhere fissured, providing excellent subdrainage and yielding new fertile soil material by the constant disintegration of the rock. On the west side of the peninsula this limestone ridge rises abruptly from the waters of Green Bay, frequently attaining precipitous elevations of more than two hundred feet. Along here are found a great number of large springs, the waters of which unite to form many creeks. On the east side the limestone ledge slopes gently down to Lake Michigan where the shore is nearly everywhere low and frequently swampy.

Besides the peninsula there are also included within the county about twenty islands. Most of these are of a rocky formation and are solid, picturesque bits of terra firma. Off the northeast point of the peninsula, however, are or rather have been, some islands of less stable nature. They are large heaps of gravel brought together by the action of the waves, and in early days formed most dangerous obstacles for navigation. At least one of these shoals was once a habitation for white men. This was a little island known as "Little

Gull." In 1846 a fisherman and his wife had a shanty on it and lived there all summer. As autumn approached and old Michigan began to froth the inhabitants of Little Gull returned to Rock Island. The next summer Little Gull was too small to squat on, being then a mere speck on the sea. It continued to wear down year by year until it finally disappeared beneath the sea. The spot was then known as "the outside shoal" and small sailcraft of light draft could navigate over the shoal. Some years later the water over the shoal was of depth sufficient to hide its appearance and a large steamer suffered a heavy loss by grounding on the bar. Today the once dry island is covered by many fathoms of water.

The insular position of the county, while causing some inconvenience, has largely contributed to building up a more co-operative, centralized community than is common when every border is open. To this centralization is largely due our splendid road system. It has also helped to develop a strong county press.

On account of being almost surrounded by large bodies of water, Door County has the most equable climate of any county in the state. The mean annual temperature of the county at Sturgeon Bay is 43°. This is two degrees less than in Milwaukee, four degrees less than in Rochester, N. Y., and seven degrees less than North Yakima, Wash. Door County winters are mild (22°), somewhat moister than elsewhere in the state, resembling winters on the coast of Maine. The springs (42°) are retarded and cool, like those along the coast of New England. The summers (67°) are mild and pleasant, averaging over two degrees less than the Wisconsin and Rock River valleys and four degrees cooler than the Mississippi Valley. The autumns (50°) are warmer than farther west, the temperature being about the same as that of Eastern Massachusetts, the Hudson Valley, or the Lake Ontario shore of New York. Because of the moderating influence of the large bodies of water that surround the county its summers are cooler and its winters milder than almost any other part of the state.<sup>1</sup>

For the same reason Door County has a longer annual frost-free period than is enjoyed by any other county in the state. The average date of the last killing frost in spring is May 1st, and the average date of the first killing frost in autumn is October 10th. This makes a frost-free period of 160 days. This is sixteen days longer than in the famous Yakima Valley of North Yakima, Wash.<sup>1</sup> This

<sup>1</sup> The figures above are cited from Bulletins, Numbers 223 and 290, University of Wisconsin Agricultural Experiment Station.



is one of the chief reasons why Door County is exceptionally favorably adapted to the growing of fruit.

The average rainfall in Door County is 30.3 inches, of which 14% of the total precipitation comes in winter and 31% in the summer during the growing season when it is most needed.

Owing largely to our salubrious climate, the healthfulness of Door County is unsurpassed and longevity has here found one of the most favorable locations for development. While fever and ague is an almost universal complaint in all new communities, it was almost unknown here.

An oddity of Door County's climate is that north is here south and south is north. That is, the climate is milder toward the north. A cold wave period reaches from five to eight degrees lower temperature at Sturgeon Bay than in the northern part of the county. This is because the land area decreases and the surrounding modifying water area increases toward the north end of the county. It is probably for this reason that peaches, certain fancy plums and Jonathan apples can be grown successfully in the northern part of the county, while they have hitherto been a failure in the southern half of the county.

Because of its scenic charms Door County is a land of keen delight, unrivaled among all the counties of Wisconsin or the entire Northwest. With its 200 miles of waterfront, varying between deep bays and bold headlands, majestic cliffs and pebbly shores, it affords an infinity of ever pleasing views. Nowhere in the Northwest is there such an abundance of well assembled, harmonious nature-pictures. For this reason the state authorities found it an easy matter to pick a Door County site for the establishment of a state park when they in 1908 visited a number of beautiful spots in the state. As Mr. John Nolen, the landscape architect from Boston who acted in advisory capacity, says, "There can be no question that the peninsula, whose shores are washed on one side by Lake Michigan and on the other by the waters of the historical Green Bay, is pre-eminently qualified for selection as State Park. The members of the state park board, its advisors, the governor of the state and other representative citizens have made several visits to Door County, spending days in the consideration of its advantages, testing critically its claims for consideration. So far as I know, the opinion is unanimous that here, at least, if nowhere else in Wisconsin, is a tract that can be selected with confidence. \* \* \* Door County has unmistakable and not easily destroyed landscape beauty. It is

wild and as yet unspoiled, with alternating interests of woodland and cliff, bay and land. Reminding one constantly of the coast of Maine, the shore with its many graceful indentations is a never-ending delight. It sweeps from point to point, here a beach of fine sand, there of gravel, then, in contrast, precipitous limestone bluffs, rising to a height of a hundred feet or more and covered with a heavy growth of native trees and shrubs, mostly evergreen. The vegetation is rich and varied. Extensive forests of pine, cedar, balsam, maple, basswood and birch, covering large tracts, with every now and then a pleasant opening in the more fertile, level land. Birds are numerous, as might be expected, and wild flowers abound. It is no exaggeration to say that the broad beauty of the scenery of this section is unsurpassed in Wisconsin. Indeed, one of the undeniable claims of Door County to selection is that this type of scenery does not exist elsewhere in the state. Almost at each step on the land, each boat's length on the water, a new vista is opened, a new composition is afforded. With a temperature always moderate, the purest of air laden with the fragrance of balsam and pine, with unexcelled facilities for sailing, boating, fishing, and with already a hundred miles of fine country roads sweeping over hill and dale, this Door County region under state control might easily become a famous pleasure resort of the highest order. The Michigan State Park at Mackinac Island is not one whit more attractive than the Door County Park might easily be. Yet the Mackinac Island Park, comprising but 1,000 acres, is now valued at \$2,000,000 and is visited annually by 200,000 persons."<sup>2</sup>

For the first forty years of Door County's history, its scenic waterfront lay unappreciated and unimproved, the transient owners disdaining even to keep up the taxes on those "wild rock piles." It now looks as if this waterfront will ultimately be the greatest material as well as romantic asset of the county. The greater part of it is being eagerly bought up by prosperous summer resorters from distant parts who are improving it with charming cottages and hotels which yield big taxes.

In the following pages an attempt will be made to tell the history of Door County. It is a history which goes back even before the settlement of America by white men. On this peninsula the Indian in prehistoric times found a favorite abiding place and here have been enacted some of the most stirring events of Indian recollections that have been preserved. Here also Jesuit missionaries

<sup>2</sup> From John Nolen's Report in State Parks for Wisconsin, pp. 30-33.

and French empire builders labored more than a hundred years before Chicago received its first settler. Finally came the early fishermen and later the more stable farmers who found Door County and its surrounding waters a region hard to conquer but rich in ultimate returns. While no buccaneers bold and bad have ravaged its shores, Door County's peculiar location has developed a romantic past with many thrilling adventures on land and sea. While much of this has been lost an attempt has been made in the following pages to preserve some of these soul stirring adventures as well as also to record the more prosaic history of the county's material and political history.

## CHAPTER II

### DISCOVERY OF DOOR COUNTY AND THE WEST

The French dominion in America may be said to begin with the year 1608. In that year Samuel de Champlain made a settlement at Quebec. He explored the coasts carefully, penetrated up the great St. Lawrence River with its many tributaries, and was the first to behold the great chain of inland oceans that stretched for vast and unknown distances to the west.

Champlain's chief object in establishing a colony in the new world was to develop the fur trade. Prowling through the forests of this new continent were tens of thousands of Indians. They lived chiefly by hunting and had peltries by the millions. These were of little use to the natives but of great commercial value to the French. Champlain's first object was therefore by a conciliatory and fraternal attitude toward the red men to gain their good will and thus their trade.

When Champlain founded his colony at Quebec he found the vast wilderness around him was dominated by two great groups of Indians. These were the Iroquois and the Algonquins. Roughly speaking the Iroquois ruled over the region south of the St. Lawrence while the Algonquins occupied the northern country. Champlain soon found that these two groups were irreconcilable enemies and he had to choose between them for his field of enterprise. He chose the Algonquins.

This decision being taken he took steps to cement his alliance with the Indians in a very sagacious and far reaching manner. He endeavored to teach them the fear of God by the establishment of missionary stations, and to protect them against their ancient enemies, the Iroquois, by the establishment of a series of frontier forts which became havens of refuge in the intermittent wars between the two Indian divisions which never ceased. He worked out his plans with excellent results. Henceforth we see the quaint alliance of missionary and merchant, the black-robed Jesuit and the dealer in peltries. So successful was the policy of the French in dealing with the Indians, as laid down by Champlain, that as long as the French continued in power in Canada their Indian allies never turned against them. While





JEAN NICOLET ENTERING THE VILLAGE OF THE MIGHTY WINNEBAGOES

“Round about the Indian village,  
Sprewd the meadows and the cornfields,  
And beyond them stood the forest,  
Stood the grove of singing pine trees,  
Green in summer, white in winter,  
Ever sighing, ever singing.”

—*Longfellow's Hiawatha.*



the English cavaliers on the St. James and the English Puritans in Massachusetts were in constant dread of extermination, the French in Canada ruled peacefully and profitably, their name honored and respected for two thousand miles westward.

Little by little Champlain extended the sway of the French dominion westward by making treaties with distant tribes and establishing friendly relations. In this work his chief agent was a man by the name of Jean Nicolet. He came to Canada in 1618 and soon showed a remarkable aptitude for getting along with the Indians. He was therefore commanded by his superior to go and live among the various Indian tribes, to learn their language, their manners and customs, their secret thoughts. This was done. Nicolet for years lived among the Indians and became as one of them. He taught them numberless clever arts and accomplishments of the white man and in turn learned like an Indian to bear suffering without a murmur and to go for days without food. So great was his endurance, his ability, his tact, that he won the complete confidence of the Indians and was adopted into many tribes, made chief, and was looked upon as the most wonderful man that ever came to the knowledge of the red man. By his cleverness and tact he was able to make treaties of peace and friendship with tribe after tribe, preparing the way for the missionary and the furtrader. He even accomplished the unheard of feat of persuading the relentless Iroquois to bury the hatchet of war and make a treaty of peace with their traditional enemy, the Algonquins.

Largely through the power of his persuasive personality the fame of the great French father at Quebec spread far and wide and Indian envoys came from unknown regions to pay their respects. Among them came one summer day a naked Chippewa, from a distant country two moons' journey to the west, and laid at Champlain's feet a lump of copper.

On being questioned he told of the vast territory he had traversed and of the Great Lakes—the great inland oceans that stretched for illimitable distances to the west and southwest of his native country. He told also of the Indian nations that lived around these lakes, one of which particularly interested Champlain. These were the Winnebagos, or as their name means, the fetid, or salt water people—the most savage and crafty Indians of the West and the chief tribe of that region.

Like all other explorers of his time Champlain looked with fond desire upon the same hope as that which propelled Columbus—the hope of finding a passage to Cathay, or the Orient—the land of spices,

pearls and untold wealth. When he heard of these great seas with the name of the people living upon them suggesting that they lived in the proximity of the ocean, he thought that they were probably one of the outlying tribes of China. To ascertain this and to extend the French empire to this distant and mighty people, he decided at once to dispatch Nicolet to negotiate a treaty of peace with them.

This journey of Nicolet's, a thousand miles into the interior of an unknown wilderness, inhabited by the most ferocious warriors and cannibals, is one of the most fascinating and romantic events of American history. Yet never was a great journey undertaken with less fuss. Forty years ago Henry Stanley made his sensational journey of seven hundred miles into the interior of Africa to look for Livingstone, and the world has not yet ceased to wonder at the bravery of it. But Stanley had an army of camp followers and assistants, camels and beasts of burden, stacks of arms and a ponderous luggage. Nicolet had none of these things. Alone and almost unarmed he seated himself in a birch bark canoe, taking only seven dusky Hurons to man the oars for him.

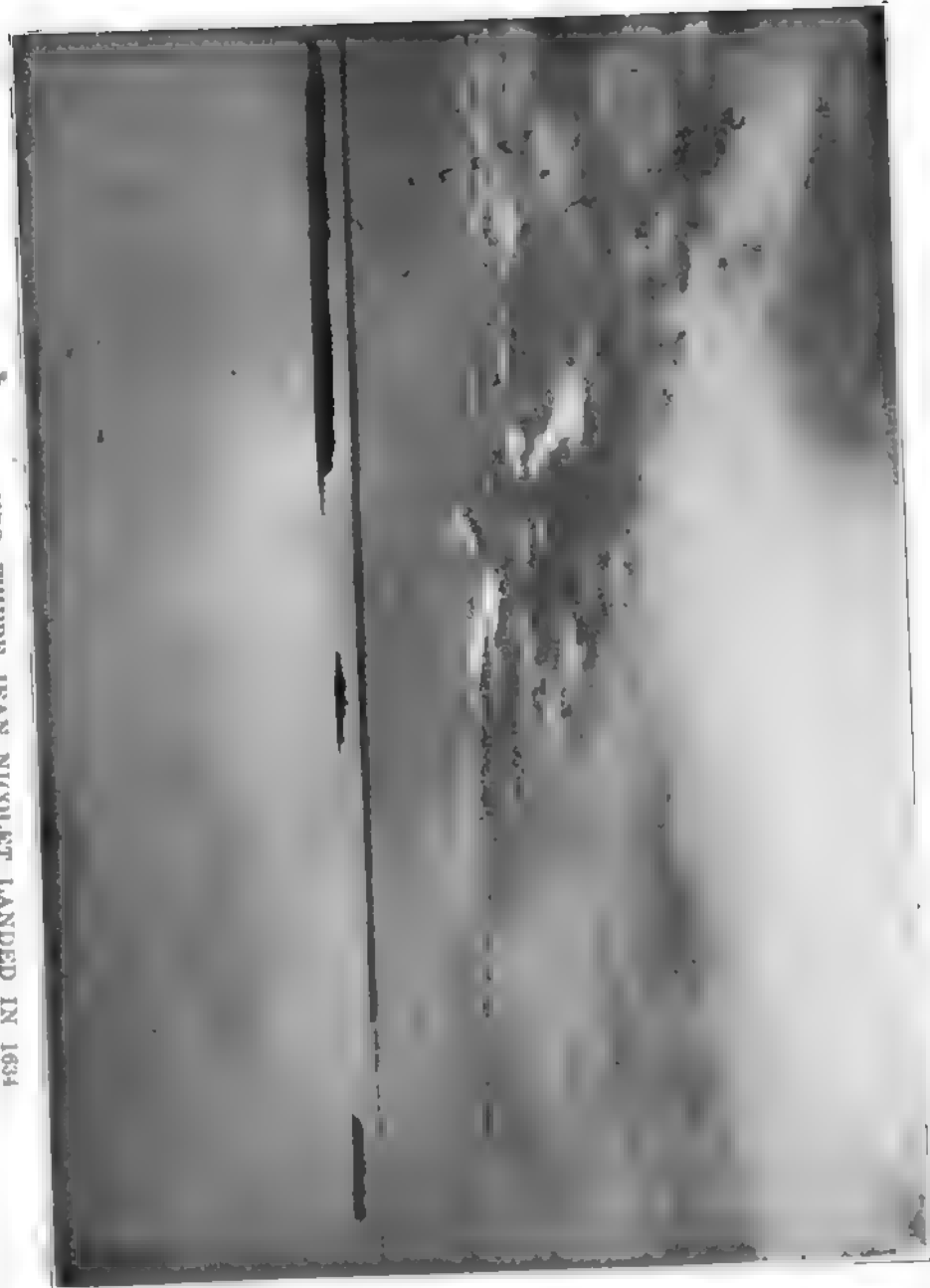
As he started out upon this great journey we may well imagine some of the woeful prophecies that were made to him; of the turbulent rivers and fearful rapids he would have to breast; of the huge seas on which raged such terrible storms; of whirlpools and supernatural dangers and bloodthirsty Indian tribes who knew no mercy but killed and ate all strangers to come to their shores.

But Nicolet was not dismayed. He was thoroughly familiar with the Algonquin language and perfectly understood the innermost recesses of the Indian mind. Pushing up the pine clad gorges of the turbulent Ottawa River with its hundred waterfalls he reached Lake Nepissing far up in the North Country. From this a river led to Georgian Bay. Then followed a journey of many hundred miles along the shores of Lakes Huron and Michigan. Finally after about ten weeks of canoeing he reached the shore of the Door County peninsula.

On this long journey Nicolet visited many Indian tribes who had never seen a white man. Some of these savages hailed him as a god, while others fled from him in terror. But Nicolet's commanding presence and reassuring smile was able to overcome all their distrust and fear. Although their training and experience of centuries led them to look upon all strangers with suspicion and hostility he was able to wander at will among them honored and unmolested.

The Winnebagos, or "Men of the Sea," toward whom he was





DOOR COUNTY ISLANDS, WHERE JEAN NICOLET LANDED IN 1634

“In the purple mists of evening,  
In the regions of the home-wind,  
Of the northwest wind, Keewaydin,  
Are the Islands of the Blessed.”

—Longfellow's *Hiawatha*.



journeying were at that time occupying the greater part of the Door County peninsula. Their main stronghold was a large, palisaded village at Red Banks, just below the town of Union and about twelve miles northeast of the present city of Green Bay. When Nicolet was within two day's journey of this village he stopped and dispatched one of his Huron companions to them with greetings of peace to apprise them of his coming. This stopping place of Nicolet's was probably near Sturgeon Bay. A day's journey with a canoe was from fifteen to twenty miles, which makes it probable that his camp was at some point on Sturgeon Bay, very likely at Little Sturgeon. It has been supposed by earlier writers that this camp was on the west shore of Green Bay, but this view is not in accordance with Nicolet's account of his journey as recorded in the *Jesuit Relations*. Speaking of the Winnebagos when the messenger apprised them of his coming, it states that they ran to meet him, they carried all his baggage," which indicates that these Winnebagos sent to welcome him made their journey to him by land.

Arriving at the Winnebago village Nicolet took it for granted that he had reached an outlying settlement of the Chinese of the Orient. He therefore arrayed himself in a highly decorated Chinese robe brought for the occasion and firing off pistols in the air he entered the village with such pomp as his meagre resources permitted. The Indians were greatly impressed, having never heard firearms before. The women and children fled while the warriors made humble salutations, believing that the great Manitou had deigned to visit them. He was therefore lavishly entertained and treated most respectfully.

## CHAPTER III

### INDIAN REMAINS IN DOOR COUNTY

While it is natural to think of Door County's history as beginning with the advent of white men, Door County was for centuries a favorite abode for the Indian. The thousands who now live within its borders are as nothing to those hundreds of thousands who in the ages past here lived and moved and had their being. Upon this peninsula and its adjacent islands the red men seemed to have found most congenial conditions for life, for nowhere in the state are there to be found such abundant evidences of their occupation. They left no written record of their stay, but the remains of their village sites, their cemeteries and even their cornfields, in many cases, are still to be seen. A history of the peninsula would be incomplete without some account of these early inhabitants. Happily the archaeological remains of the Indians in this county have been made the object of careful research by several experts who with pious hands have uncovered many of the homes of our pre-historic neighbors and brought our Indian forerunners much nearer to us.

A partial survey of Indian remains in Door County has been made by Mr. G. A. West, Mr. J. P. Schumacher and Mr. Geo. R. Fox. The following is a brief summary of their discoveries:

The first is a synopsis of Mr. Schumacher's report.

#### STURGEON BAY VILLAGE SITES

At Circle Ridge on the south side of Sturgeon Bay, on the N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 17, T. 27, R. 26, on block 5, plat of Circle Ridge, owned by Eugene P. Campbell, is the site of an ancient Indian village and cemetery, now obliterated by cultivation. Mr. Campbell has a large and very interesting collection of Indian relics largely recovered from this site.

This site was ideally situated, being on a high sandy ridge overlooking the bay and gently sloping to the water's edge.

On the northeast side of the bay, N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 16, on the property of the "Cove" summer resort owned by M. E. Lawrence was found

the site of a small village about three hundred feet south of the boat landing. The site at present is covered by a lawn, consequently its extent was not measured.

A large number of specimens have been recovered by farmers in this vicinity. Among these are a limestone war-club head or pike found by Mr. M. E. Lawrence; an effigy pipe of green serpentine stone by Mr. Sorenson; a very fine bar ceremonial of petrified wood, by Henry Knutsen; a copper spear, by Mr. Simpson, and several copper spears and flint arrow points by I. Bevery, all of which are in Mr. Schumacher's collection at the public library in Green Bay.

On the east shore of the bay, on the north side of the road to the stone quarry (a continuation of Cedar Street) on block three of Wagener's second addition to the City of Sturgeon Bay, owned by Wm. Evedewart, is the site of an old Indian village. The ground is covered with flint chippings and broken pottery, some of it in finely ornamented rope patterns. A large number of arrow points, stone celts and copper spears have been found on and near this site.

This site covered about one hundred and fifty feet east to west, and about five hundred feet north to south. It was protected on the east by a limestone ledge, and on the west by Sturgeon Bay.

#### LITTLE HARBOR VILLAGE SITE

At Little Harbor, a small bay on the west side of the peninsula in the Town of Sturgeon Bay, on the farm of Andrew Nelson, S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 6, T. 28, R. 26, is the site of a former village covering several acres. The surface is covered with charred stones (remnants of fire places), large quantities of flint chippings and fragments of broken pottery. Several skeletons of Indians were plowed up here some years ago. The village was protected on the south by Little Bay and on the west by Green Bay, and a short distance to the east by a high limestone ledge.

Several stone axes and celts, some hammer stones, a deer horn arrow point flaker, and some bears' teeth were found by Mr. Nelson on this site. One of the summer visitors last season found a small sword, apparently of English make.

Nearly a mile north of Little Harbor on Lot 1, N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 6, T. 28, R. 26, owned by Mr. Elliot, is the site of a village now obliterated by cultivation. Mr. Elliot informs me that when he moved there, there were series of small hills (corn fields) and several small pits (provision caches) adjoining a patch of sandy ground strewn

with charred stones (remnants of fire places) pieces of broken pottery and flint chippings. Mr. Elliot has a small collection of stone axes, celts, flint arrow points, drills, a cup stone and several hammer stones recovered from this site: A very fine hardened copper spud in Mr. Schumacher's collection, was found by Mr. Elliot near this site.

#### EGG HARBOR SITE

About the year 1850, according to old settlers, a small band of Indians camped for several years on the south side of Egg Harbor, about one-half mile west of the dock, hunting and fishing. There are no indications, however, of any permanent settlement in this vicinity.

Numerous arrow points, stone axes, and celts have been found by farmers. A cache of five small socketed copper spears now in Mr. Schumacher's collection were found in the ledge east of the pier. Doctor Eames of Egg Harbor also has a small collection of stone implements recovered in this vicinity.

#### FISH CREEK SITE

On the east end of the Harbor at Fish Creek, on the south bank of the creek, S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 29, T. 31, R. 26, are indications of a site of a small camp and a few provision pits. Mr. Skiller found a copper spear, a bone drill and some flint arrow points here.

The large villages near Hein's Creek on the east side of the peninsula were about six miles from Egg Harbor, and it is quite likely the specimens found were lost by Indians from those villages.

#### STATE PARK SITE

In the State Park on the east shore of Shanty Bay, a small bay on Eagle Bay, are indications of a site of a good sized village on the N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 16, T. 31, R. 27. There being only a small clearing and most of that in grass, a close observation of this site has not been made. Several arrow points of common chert, a scraper, an unfinished drill and some ornamented potsherds have been found here.

#### ELLISON BAY AND MINK RIVER SITES

At Ellison Bay is located a village site adjoining the church on the south, on the S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 15, T. 32, R. 28. Sev-

eral Indian skeletons were unearthed here some years ago. Arrow points and other Indian relics are frequently found here by summer visitors. The surface is littered with charred stones and flint chippings and pieces of pottery.

About one-eighth of a mile north of this site, north of Mr. L. E. Evensen's general store, on the S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 14, T. 32, R. 28 is the site of another or perhaps part of the same village. Several places on this site are thickly covered with flint chippings, indicating workshop sites.

On the farm of C. J. Johnson, a short distance east, was found a series of pits about four feet across, and three and one-half to four feet deep, which may have been provision pits.

About three-quarters of a mile southeast of Ellison Bay, on the farm of Al Johnson (formerly owned by John Rogers), on the S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 14, on the south side of the Mink River, was found the site of a small village. Mr. J. W. Rogers, who lives at Rowleys Bay, a short distance east, says of this village: "My father S. A. Rogers, who was one of the first settlers in this vicinity, told me that when he moved here a band of Pottowatomi Indians lived on the south side of the river, until John Rogers bought the land where they lived and ordered them away. My father, who was friendly with them, offered them the use of his land on the north side of the Mink River, in section 21, which they gladly accepted, and they lived there for many years after. One of the survivors lived there until his death some years ago, and was buried at their cemetery west of their former village."

Mr. J. E. Harris, managing editor of the Green Bay Gazette, corroborates Mr. Rogers' statement. He says his grandfather, Mr. Rice (who preceded Mr. Rogers at Rowleys Bay by twenty years), often told him of the Indian settlement on the Mink River, and said he remembered a large wooden cross which stood on the north bank of the Mink River near Rowleys Bay, a short distance from the Indian village.

#### NEWPORT SITE

At Newport in front of Mr. Knudson's house and in the yard of the sawmill adjoining was found a quantity of flint chippings among the sand hills. Mr. Knudson found several stone axes and celts and a large number of arrow points and spears, but indications of a camp site have not yet been found.



## MUD BAY VILLAGE SITES

About one and one-half miles north of Baileys Harbor on the farm of Mr. T. Toft on the S.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 16, and on the N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , same section, T. 30, R. 21, along the east shore of Mud Bay, are found indications of a large village site. The usual debris found on a village site are present here in large quantities, and arrow points, potsherds and copper chippings are plentiful.

## HEIN'S CREEK VILLAGES

About four miles south of Baileys Harbor, on the Jackson Port Road, on the farm of Wm. Hein, lot 4, Sec. 6, T. 27, R. 28, along the shore of Lake Michigan on both sides of Hein's Creek, are located the sites of several large villages, probably the largest on the peninsula.

These villages adjoin each other for a distance of one-half mile or so. The largest one being just north of the creek, oval in shape, and about 500 by 1,500 feet, protected on the east by Lake Michigan, and on the north and west by a swamp. The ground is thickly covered with broken pottery, some of it being finely ornamented. In several places the ground is covered to a depth of over a foot with flint flakes, showing workshop sites of arrow point makers.

A large number of arrow points, spears, axes, etc., have been found at this site by Mr. Hein and others.

## JACKSONPORT SITES

Along the shore of Lake Michigan on the east side of the Jacksonport and Baileys Harbor Road, on the land of Mr. Cardey, S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 12, T. 29, R. 27, is the site of a large Indian village extending across into section 11.

About a mile south on the shore of the lake and the south bank of Hibbard's Creek, is the site of another very large village and a cemetery, extending about one-half a mile from the creek towards Jacksonport. For years this place has been a mecca for Indian relic hunters from all over the state. Every strong wind from the east would expose the skeletons of Indians buried there, rings, beads and ornaments of copper, silver and bone, which the boys of the vicinity would gather.

Mr. Frank J. Lá Mere reports the location of an Indian cemetery

on Cave Point Bluff, east of Clarks Lake, but the location has not yet been explored.

#### WHITE FISH BAY

At the mouth of Clarks Creek, one-half mile north of White Fish Bay, S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 9, T. 28, R. 27, is the site of a village on both sides of the creek, and extending south about one-quarter of a mile. Several burials have been found on the north side of the creek. Mr. Stoeffel found a cache of sixteen beautiful blue horn stone flint knives, which are now in the Ringeisen Collection at Milwaukee, Wis.

#### INDIAN TRAIL

An Indian trail or ford connected the eastern end of Sturgeon Bay with Lake Michigan. It started at the most easterly point of Sturgeon Bay, in the northwest corner of the S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 15, T. 27, R. 27, running in nearly a straight line southeasterly to a small bay on Lake Michigan on the southeast corner of the N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 28, same town and range. This trail ran a short distance north of the present canal.

#### WASHINGTON ISLAND

On Washington Island perhaps the greatest abundance of Indian remains have been found. Mr. Geo. R. Fox who in 1914 visited the island and made extensive researches on it writes as follows:<sup>1</sup>

"If the Indian left no historical record of his comings and goings, archeologically he left little to be desired. All about the shores of the island are found the sites of his camps, villages, workshops, corn fields, cemeteries and even traces of his pictorial art in the rude drawings which, up to a very few years ago, were, and possibly still are, to be found on the western cliffs.

"The Record of Wisconsin Antiquities contains a very complete list of the locations on Detroit Island and about Detroit Harbor. This data was obtained in 1904 by Mr. Geo. A. West. Since his visit a number of discoveries have been made by the inhabitants, mainly on the north and west sides, and it is largely with these this survey deals.

<sup>1</sup> "Indian Remains on Washington Island," in the January, 1915, issue of The Wisconsin Archeologist.

"Dunes and sand hills are of little value to modern men, but the archeologist hails their presence with pleasure. Here, almost invariably, will he find evidence of the residence of the red man. On clay or mucky soil, as a usual thing, only after cultivation can the flint flakes and pottery be observed; but in the sand, vegetation being scanty or wanting, every gust of wind turns up vestiges of the former occupancy of the aboriginee.

"For the sandy spots were usually open even in the days before the arrival of the white man. They furnished clean, dry, well-drained places for human habitation, ideal locations for sewage and refuse disposal. There is little wonder that they were favorite haunts of the Indian.

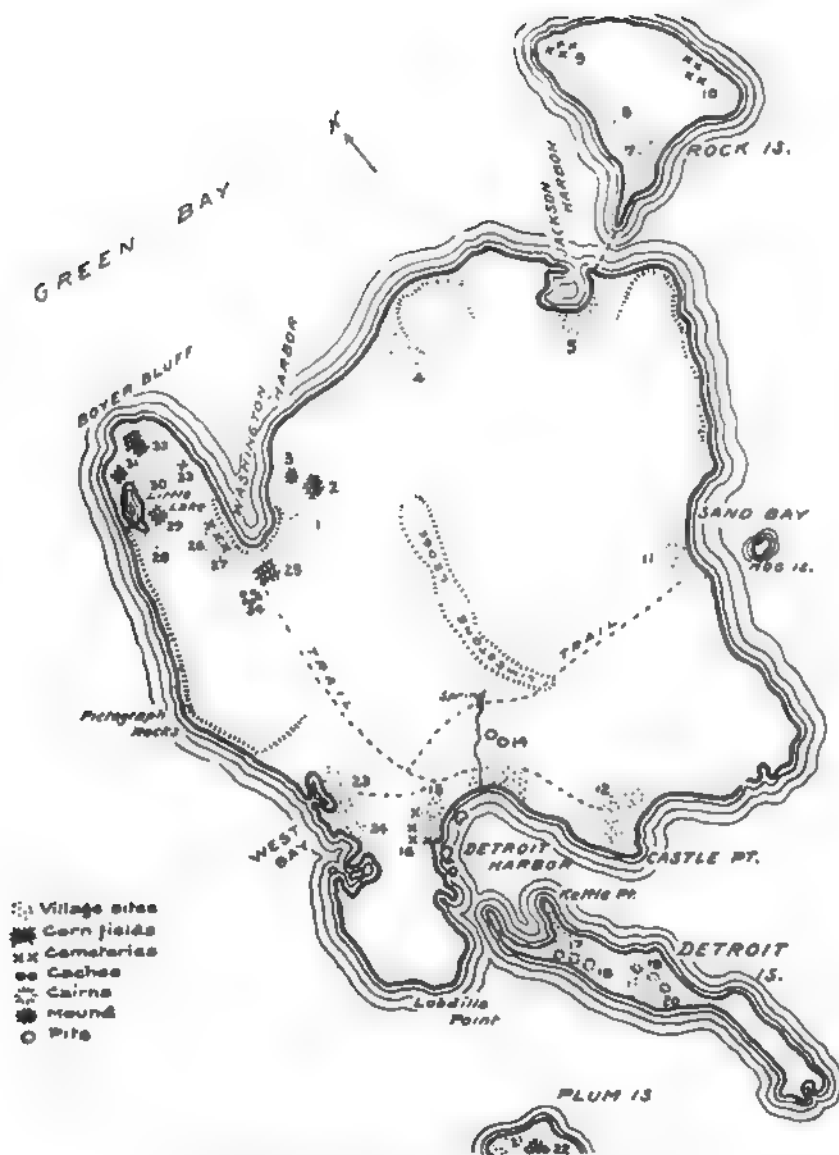
"Such spots are found almost all around Washington Island, but especially on the south shore. The north side, being a great cliff, is sandy only at certain places. About Washington Harbor the shore is abrupt with but little beach, yet here is evidence to show that this was one of the principal camping points.

"At No. 1 (see map), just in the rear of Koyen's store, is probably one camping site, many arrows and other stone implements having been found here. On the Andrew Svenson farm, two miles northeast, is a possible village site, or camp ground. Many stone implements, flakes, pottery fragments, broken bones, and a few hearth stones have been found here.

"A workshop site exists near this camp. At the foot of the limestone ledge a little to the east, flakes are found in great quantities. This site is indicated at No. 4 on the map.

"At Jackson Harbor (No. 5) is one of the largest sites on the island. On a sandy knoll at the southern end, where the land had been plowed and seeded to hay, flint chips are scattered over the surface of the soil. Small fragments of pottery, much weathered, are also found. This site probably extended along the eastern side of this harbor up to the dunes on the point opposite Rock Island, for this is high shoreland. On Rock Island, according to information obtained from the son of the keeper, is another village site. This site (No. 7) is located just across the channel. Another is found at No. 8.

"From the northeast point down the east side, the limestone lies at the surface and the beach is stony or pebbly for the entire distance, save at one point, Sand Bay, opposite Hog Island. Here is a spot half a mile in length which is almost exactly like the beach at the Two Rivers, Manitowoc County, sites. Indications pointing to the loca-



WASHINGTON, ROCK AND DETROIT ISLANDS



tion of an aboriginal village site (No. 11) were found but the forest in this vicinity is primeval and until it has been cleared away its exact extent cannot be known.

"At Castle Point (No. 12), is a village location a mile in length (See Plate 2). Here lodges seem to have been built near the shore at the point but instead of following it closely to the eastward, they were placed along the sand ridges which extend to the northeast. Bones, burned and broken stones, flint flakes, potsherds and charcoal are scattered over the sands in great profusion.

"A mile northwest, at (No. 13), is a second large site. Here, in less than thirty minutes, on a plot of ground of about an acre in extent, which has been searched over repeatedly by collectors, ten perfect flint points were recovered.

"At No. 15, in the rear of Bo Anderson's Hotel, is another place where the Indian at some time or other had his abode. It is probable that the entire shore from Castle Point around to Lobdill's Point has at various times been used for camp purposes by the original inhabitants. But the three locations given, from evidence gathered by the author, appear to have been the favorite spots.

"On Detroit Island, at Kettle Point (No. 17), a camp site is reported to exist. At No. 19 was the principal village on this island. This place is an open field about ten acres in extent. It is known as the 'Indian Field.' Grass and clumps of bushes now cover it, but flint flakes and potsherds can be gathered among them.

"At West Harbor, about 200 feet from the water, on two large sand hills an eighth of a mile apart, are two interesting sites. On the first (No. 24) the pieces of pottery observed were the largest found on any site on the islands. Fireplace stones were found here in great numbers, as they also were on site No. 23. At this latter spot a lodge fireplace with a large part of the stones yet in place, lay exposed. The wind had uncovered this portion of the site and the bed of closely packed ashes and charcoal, offering greater resistance to the wind than the loose and shifting sand, a miniature plateau had been formed. Unluckily the picture secured turned out poorly. Near this fire bed was a small knoll scattered over which were hundreds of very small pieces of pottery having the appearance of having been poured out of a receptacle and cascaded down the tiny slopes.

"Without doubt the most charming spot on the entire island is the glade at the southern end of Little Lake. At this point (No. 29) the first white settlers, the fishermen, erected their shacks, which have long ago disappeared. But here, before them, the Indian had his

wigwam. On this site the grass grows as short and as velvety as on a closely clipped lawn, and this turf has a depth of six inches; yet so plentiful is evidence of Indian occupation that pottery and flakes peep up through the roots and tiny blades.

"Little Lake is slightly over half a mile in length. At about the middle of its eastern side is a ledge. North of this, at the northeastern point of the lake, is a sandy, sloping bluff and here, in a corn field which now covers it, were found the cracked and discolored hard-heads of fireplaces, broken clay utensils, animal bones and flint flakes. This site is shown at No. 30 on the map. Half a mile southeast, at Washington Harbor, on a little gravelly plateau, is an Indian camping ground. This (No. 26) was probably only the summer residence of the villagers about Little Lake.

"On Plum Island, about the harbor at the northern end, is another village site, according to inhabitants of Washington Island. This is the one reported to the society by Mr. G. A. West.

"There appear to have been five principal village sites. Those at Little Lake appear to have been the most important and probably, with the exception of the 'Indian Field' site, the last to be used.

"Site No. 12, at Castle Point, however, is second in importance and if sites 13 and 15 are included, as it seems they rightly should be, it is by far the largest. The West Harbor locations are third with the Jackson Harbor site fourth in extent.

"This omits the Detroit Island site, but from the information recovered from the graves here, and from a careful examination of the 'Indian Field' it seems not to be very old nor of great size.

#### TRAILS

"On Washington Island but few traces of trails remain even in the most favorable localities and the locations of such as are here given, save in one instance, are obtained from descriptions obtained from the older settlers.

"The main road along the Detroit Harbor shore, running from Castle Point to West Bay, was laid out on the main trail. This follows the higher sand dunes a little back from the shore. A short distance west of where the present road from Detroit Harbor to Washington Harbor leaves the first mentioned road, a trail ran across the island from north to south. This was somewhat to the westward of the present highway, which follows a direct course. These locations are given on the authority of Mr. Wm. Wickmann.

"Another trail, from Sand Bay, ran westward through the center of the island, passing near a spring. A few years ago it could still be seen, but the ground is now under cultivation. Mr. Gudmundsen, who lives at Washington Harbor, in his boyhood days, was well acquainted with this pathway.

"Another trail, and one that can still be faintly seen ran from Little Lake along the western side of Boyer Bluff to the northern end of the island.

"Of necessity the site of Jackson Harbor must have been connected with the others; probably a trail led west to Washington Harbor and another south to southwest to some village at Detroit Harbor.

"A water trail or ford ran from the northeastern point of Jackson Harbor across half a mile of Green Bay and Lake Michigan, to Rock Island. Connecting these two places is a shallow, sandy spit, not over two feet deep at any point. Today, it is so shallow that only in one spot can small boats and small launches pass from Green Bay to the parent lake. This is No. 6 on the map.

5  
22  
3

#### EVIDENCES OF CULTIVATION

"All remains of aboriginal farming of which traces still exist on Washington Island, are found about Washington Harbor. Here conditions for their preservation have been favorable. The abrupt shore line, the rocky soil, the heavy forest growth, one and all have contributed to the saving of patches of ground which still clearly show the effects of Indian agriculture.

"The evidences of cultivation found here are corn hills, no garden beds being known. On the extreme northern end of Boyer's Bluff, on an elevated plateau, is one patch of hills (No. 32). A second is found a quarter of a mile north of the northern end of Little Lake. They are in dense woods and are still plainly visible. These are indicated on the map by No. 31. A third plot of corn hills (No. 29) is found on the heights of the ledge heretofore described as approaching the eastern side of Little Lake, just south of village site No. 30.

"A fourth corn field is reported as being in the woods half a mile east of the southern end of Washington Harbor. This was not found though a search was made for it, but so convincingly was it described by my informant that there can be little doubt of its existence. Still other patches of corn hills are said to be found in the forest belt lying along the north shore east of Washington Harbor. These have not been even approximately located on the accompanying map.



Mr. Henry Koyen, a member of the society, has promised to search for and will report on these.

"The finest, largest and best preserved plot of corn hills is found in the center of the most settled district on the island. Just where the road which encircles the southern end of Washington Harbor meets the highway from Detroit Harbor, stands a church. Immediately south of this edifice is a schoolhouse. In both these yards corn hills are to be seen.

"In the churchyard and along the roadway are found hill after hill. At present nearly all lie west of the road, but enough can be seen to the east to show that they once extended for some distance in that direction. The fields on that side have been plowed repeatedly, obliterating all traces. The hills in the schoolyard are still very distinct though this land is reported as having once been plowed over.

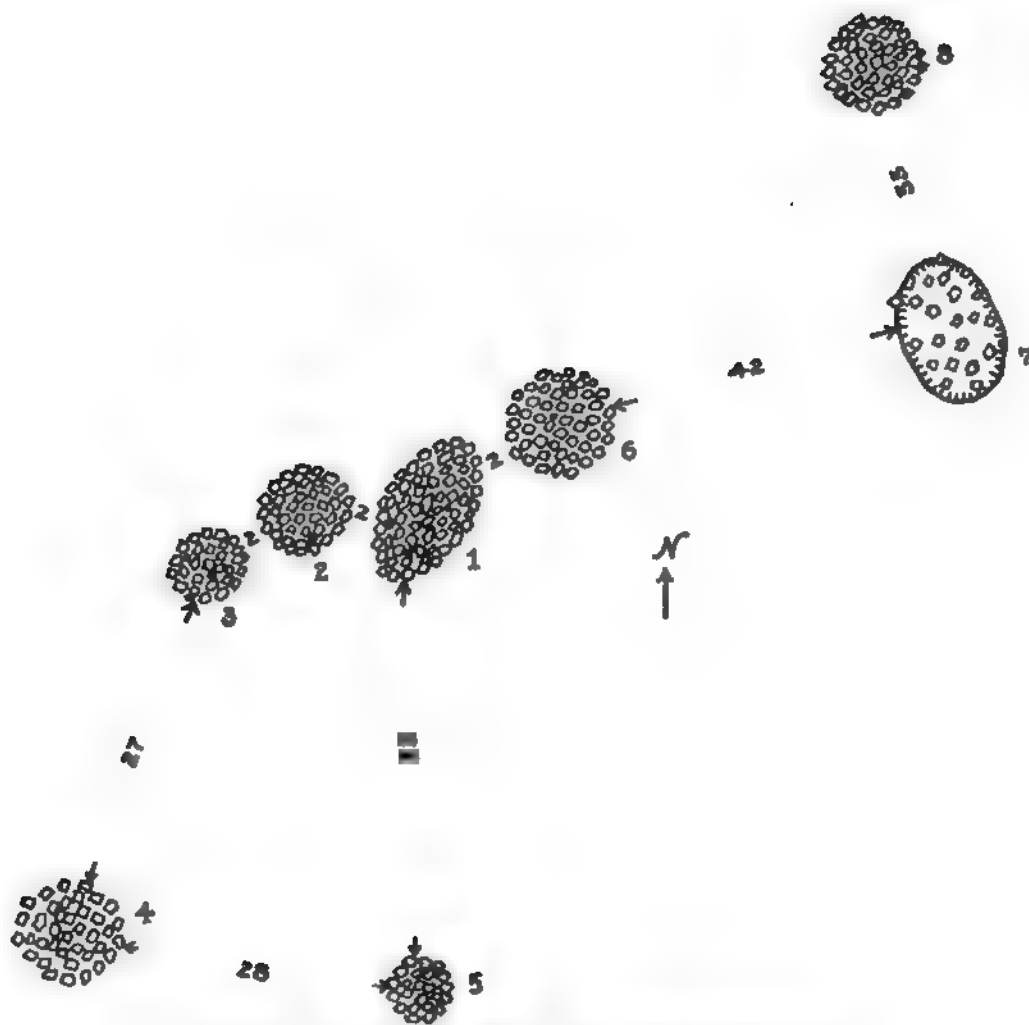
"The hills are slightly smaller than those found elsewhere in Wisconsin, these averaging about four feet in diameter, though many are only three feet across. They are nearly perfect circles with a present height of four to six inches. This corn field is No. 25 on the map.

"Fifty feet west of this plot, in an open space in the woods, where traces of hills still faintly showed, were found a number of cache pits. The three most distinct were measured with the following results: One,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet, the other two each 4 feet in diameter. Their depth, owing to decaying vegetation and other debris which filled them, could not be determined. These are located at No. 34 on the map.

"Other corn field locations on the main island will probably be found, a very likely place for their discovery being in the neighborhood of West Bay. Two other reports of early Indian cultivation from this vicinity are recorded in 'A Record of Wisconsin Antiquities,' p. 320. One refers to cultivation on Plum Island. The second is noted as being located on Detroit Island and can only refer to the 'Indian Feld,' site before mentioned.

#### MOUNDS, CEMETERIES, CAVE BURIALS

"The Wisconsin Record locates an Indian cemetery on Rock Island. This probably refers to that situated on the east side of the island (No. 10), for it is here that white interments have taken place, these being responsible for bringing to light the Indian burials. A second Indian burying ground (No. 9) is situated immediately in the rear of the Pottawatomie light, at the north end of this island.



GROUP OF CAIRNS AT INDIAN FIELD, DETROIT ISLAND  
(Plate 3)



"The Record also locates a cemetery at Furlong's Dock, on Washington Harbor. This is No. 27. It lies just to the west, on a slight elevation. The ground is hard and altogether it seems a very unlikely place for Indian graves; yet at two different places here, in both instances while excavating for cellars, skeletons were exhumed. One of the two houses erected is known as the 'haunted' house because the builder, after completing it, remembered the burials in the cellar and refused to live in it. No objects of any description were found with the bones.

"A mile north of this location, Mr. Henry Koyen and his brother some few years ago, came across a cave in the face of the cliff facing Washington Harbor. This had remained long undiscovered because of the difficulty in reaching it, the approach being over a sheer, rocky wall. On entering the cave they found a skeleton lying against one of the walls. From the position in which the bones lay, it seems clear that the dead had been placed in a sitting position with his knees drawn up. The skeleton faced the opening of the cave to the east. Mr. Koyen and his brother were lads at the time and the unexpected coming upon the skull and other bones frightened them so that they hurriedly left the cave without making any further investigation. Some years later, others visited the cave and removed the skeleton. This is location No. 83.

"At No. 16 Mr. Wm. Wickmann reported another burial ground. This is on a low, marshy piece of land, sloping gently up to the sand. A visit failed to reveal any surface indications. The owner of the soil is averse to digging.

"According to other residents, there are burials on the high land to the east of Washington Harbor. No definite spot is named. In a pine grove here are numerous heaps of earth of indefinite shapes. While in all probability the greater part, or perhaps all, are tree falls, as was decided on first viewing them, there is one heap (No. 3) which is very similar in appearance to mounds on Detroit Island, and to many others seen along the Menominee River and about Shawano Lake. It is 9 feet long, 6 feet wide and nearly 2 feet high. The soil is rocky and there is no depression near it of the kind which commonly accompany tree falls. While it was at first rejected, subsequent comparison with known mounds has led to its inclusion in this paper, though it should be marked doubtful. While built on rocky, stony and gravelly soil, this mound was composed of sand.

"The largest cemeteries are those on Rock Island and the one now to be described, is located on Detroit Island. Mr. G. A. West has

reported one on lots one and two, which is probably the one at 'Indian Field.' This cemetery consists of eight or more mounds or rather the remains of them, for all have been very thoroughly excavated.

"Detroit Island, save on the northwest point, is heavily wooded with a dense mat of underbrush growing beneath the trees. In this woodland are two open spots, the first (No. 20) being the 'Indian Field.' This is reached by following along the shore, as there are no roads or passable trails. It is entirely hemmed in by the forest and is smooth, level, sandy ground about five feet above lake level. The plot is 100 feet back from the lake shore and well concealed. It was not found on the first trip down the shore, the opening having been passed unperceived, necessitating a return to the houses on the upper point for better directions.

"The first view suggests a farmer's clearing, but so far as known this particular opening has never been plowed over. The graves are found around the edges of the plot. This spot was long a fertile field for the relic hunter, for not only have the mounds been rifled, but there is hardly a spot over the entire extent of the circle surrounding the central portion which has not been spaded over. The only mounds which can be distinguished are a group of eight (Plate 3) which lie on the southern side south of a central point in the field. Here is a slight depression, the bed of a very small creek.

"These mounds, or cairns, were made of water-worn stones, with a few limestone slabs among them. It is now difficult to determine whether the mounds were entirely built of rocks or merely rounded off with them. In the center of each is a deep pit, an opening which the diggers have not bothered to refill. The inner surface is sand, free from stones larger than pebbles. The interments must have been made below the surface for no cairn was more than one foot in height.

"Six of the cairns are circular and two are oval in form. One is different from the others, being composed of gravel. It corresponds very nearly to the mounds in the other group to be described. It is possible that it was made at the same time as the last mentioned. The dimensions of the cairns are from eight to twelve feet in diameter and length.

"The second group is situated half a mile north of the one just described. It lies just south of the southern end of the northwest peninsula on very low, mucky ground. It, too, is hemmed in by trees and is shut away from the southwest beach, close to which it lies, by a gravel ridge six feet in height. On the other side it slopes by degrees into a marsh and then to the bay which lies between the two points

at the north end of Detroit Island. On this low land are found thirteen oval mounds or graves, with the remains of several more about and among them. The supposition is that in this field were buried some of the victims told of in the legend of Death's Door, the passage between Washington Island and the end of Door County.<sup>2</sup>

"These mounds have every appearance of hastily erected graves, as though the body was placed on the surface of the soil and sand and gravel from the beach thrown over it. They are slightly larger than the mounds the white man makes to cover his dead. A reference to the accompanying chart shows their direction and location in reference to each other. None are over two feet in height, and all are built of sand with many large stones from the beach scattered through and over the tops of the heaps.

"The length and width vary but little. Seven are 10 feet long and 6 feet wide.

"Several others have been disturbed by digging and as cattle had tracked over the ground in places, their locations could not be determined with certainty.

#### PICTOGRAPHS AND PITS

"Pictograph rocks are mentioned in the Record (p. 320) as having existed on the rocky bluff near Death's Door, at the head of the Green Bay Peninsula, and also at Lobdill's Point, on Washington Island. It is to be regretted that no photograph or drawing of these was ever made, for the probabilities are that they have now disappeared.

"The one on Lobdill's Point is located on the authority of Mr. B. L. Anderson. Unfortunately he was absent from the island at the time this reconnaissance was being made. The limestone ledge of the beach surrounding this promontory is of such slight elevation above the water as not to admit of drawings being made which would be out of reach of waves.<sup>3</sup>

"Farther north along the shore, where 'Pictograph Rocks' is marked on the map, the bluffs are sheer. According to Mr. A. A. Koyen a few years ago there were several Indian drawings on the rock walls at this place, but the wash of the water undercut the ledge and the surface cracked off and fell into the lake. He described one drawing on this cliff as depicting three or four men chasing some large

<sup>2</sup> An account of the legend is given on p. 40.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. B. L. Anderson says that the writing referred to was not on the rocks at Lobdill's point but at Jackson Harbor. H. R. H.

animal. This he had viewed from the ice. He remarked that it was at about the height above the water that a man could conveniently reach by standing in a canoe lying at the base of the rocks.

"The location of the pits referred to in the heading of this chapter of this report are shown at No. 14 on the map. Mr. Wm. Wickmann called attention to them and explained that the older residents stated that they were cellars used by the Indians for storage purposes. Some doubt existed in the writer's mind at the time of their examination as to their artificial character, but subsequent discoveries of similar excavations in two different localities on the Wolf River below Shawano, appear to have determined their authenticity. It is probable that they were cache pits of exceptional size, for there is a spring not far away, and there are probabilities of the location of a camp site here, though no evidence to bear out this conclusion was obtained. The larger pit is 19 feet in diameter with a depth of 10 feet. It is circular and appears to have been cut perpendicularly, but time and the elements have changed it into a steep declivity and have filled the bottom to a considerable depth with branches and leaves. The location is on a side hill with a ravine a little distance away giving water an excellent opportunity to escape through the gravelly soil.

#### COPPER AND OTHER FINDS

"Implements made of various kinds of stone are still picked up in great numbers about the island, but no one of the residents appears to have an extensive collection of these. It is reported that when the land about Jackson Harbor was first plowed, the boys picked arrow points up 'by the handful' and threw them at marks or disposed of them in other ways. That great numbers remain to be found is borne out by the fact that on site 13, our party of three in thirty minutes picked up a dozen points of good size.

"The Record shows that a cache of four iron trade axes were found on Detroit Island. Just across the harbor a find of four copper celts is reported to have been made. The lady who secured them after their discovery was interviewed and stated that while she thought she had one or two still about the house she had given two to her daughter. She failed to find the others.

"A copper ax was found on Lobdill's Point.

"A copper knife was found on Plum Island, and two copper celts were picked up on the Rohn Place, at West Bay.



CASTLE VILLAGE SITE, WASHINGTON ISLAND





"A copper kettle containing the bones of a duck was dug up a year or two ago on village site 17.

"From one of the cairns on site No. 20 a silver cross was obtained, probably indicating the date of their erection as occurring during the French regime, or shortly after. From another grave a necklace of bear teeth or claws was secured.

"A silver knife was found on the hills on site No. 4. Mr. Svenson has, during the not inconsiderable time that he has made his home here, picked up large numbers of worked stones. He disposed of them to someone in Green Bay.

"On the village site at West Bay an iron implement was found. It was about 8 inches long, slightly convex on the cutting edge, which was about the width of that of an ax, and was cut off squarely at both ends. The thickness of this implement was not over one-half inch. The upper side had been hammered and battered until the edge had turned over and flattened out.

"On Jackson Harbor site three blue trade beads were found.

"On Rock Island site (No. 8), in the spring of 1918, while making an excavation for a fountain, a pottery vessel was found. It lay at a depth of 3 feet and was turned bottom upward. In its removal a small section was broken from this vessel. C. H. Thordarson, who owns Rock Island, took it to Chicago to have it repaired.

"Many specimens of the small fossil bivalve, *Pentamerus oblongus*, which the Wisconsin Geological Survey states are plentiful in Door County are found on the village sites at Detroit Harbor. A small one, 1½ inches long and wide, was picked up by Mr. Wickmann. One corner is chipped showing the chert which filled the cavity left by the dying mollusk. It is possible that the Indian flaked these to secure small arrows, but it seems more probable that the Indian children used them as playthings. Pieces of fossil coral, of several species, abound on the sites.

"The Indian had at hand on Washington Island, a vast supply of raw material for the making of his implements and weapons. In the rocks of the central ledge and in the limestone slabs on the eastern beach, nodules of chert, quartz and other suitable stones occur in great numbers. (See Plate 2.) Chips collected from all of the principal village sites show that all implements were produced from native rocks. But quartz was little used, only one point made of that material being seen. Quartzite seems not to have been used on the island as no flakes were found, nor were any specimens made of this mate-

rial seen. Limestone appears to have been occasionally used in implement making.

#### POTSHERDS AND FLAKES

"While far more could undoubtedly be learned of the aboriginal workmen if many examples of their workmanship in stone could be examined, in the absence of such collection the flakes may be studied with some profit. Specimens of each kind of stone, and of the various colors of the same stone were made on each site and kept carefully separate. They have been submitted to Mr. Brown. A few superficial observations of the survey party are here included.

"From Jackson Harbor site the flakes are chert, mostly of a dark color with a few of light gray. The pieces of pottery were very small, much broken by the weather, and were of light reddish clay tempered with quartz. Where 'quartz tempered' is used it means that small fragments of mica, quartz or other hard stone were used.

"The flakes from the 'Castle' site were in greater variety. The chert is blue-black, slate, light brown, grey, white, and greenish and brown mottled. They averaged much smaller in size than from the first mentioned locality. Pottery from here was quartz tempered with a few thin pieces which appear to be sand tempered. These latter were very red, the red material appearing to have been built up over an inner layer of the thickness of cardboard. This portion is black. The quartz tempered fragments have a red coating on the outside in most instances, while the inner sides are dark and sooty. But in one sherd the process was reversed. The red was inside, the darker portion, outside. No pieces bearing markings of any kind were discovered.

"From village site No. 13, the pottery was all reddish, quartz tempered. The flakes are about the same as from Jackson Harbor. The points found were the larger type of arrow head or small spear tip. The work was roughly executed. One reject was found here.

"While the flakes from sites 23 and 24 on West Bay are practically the same as those from the Castle, the pottery is markedly different. Two large sections of rims were found. These are marked, the markings being entirely incised lines, no evidence of the use of a twisted cord being found. One piece was decorated with tiny diagonal lines made in a row about the rim. There were at least four of these rows. This section is reddish outwardly, discolored inwardly and seems to be from a vessel whose mouth was the widest part. This jar was 16 inches in diameter at the mouth.

"A second fragment was from a receptacle with a constricted aperture. This was 14 inches across the opening, with a flaring rim. On the inner edges of this rim, at distances a little over half an inch apart, the point of a stick had been pressed into the clay while the thumb had held it on the outside, a waving or fluted edge resulting. On the sides of the pot, lines had been drawn diagonally which appear to have been in groups of six, one set running to the left, the next to the right, the inside lines of the two sets meeting at the top. This sherd was bright red in color, a little discolored on the inside, and was built up over an inner layer of bluish or blackish material.

"Another section had a thickness of three-quarters of an inch and was made with very coarse tempering material, small pebbles being included with the other ingredients.

"From site 24 came the only specimens of shell tempered earthenware found on Washington Island. The shell fragments seem to have been mixed with some dark material and then the vessel formed, after which a thin coating of red clay (possibly with some sand intermixed) was applied both outside and inside."

Besides the village sites and cemeteries referred to above there are probably a number of other places in Door County which would reward the patient research of the archeologist. Among such places may be suggested Baileys Harbor, North Bay, Kangaroo Lake, Europe Lake, the east point of Little Sturgeon Bay, Squaw Island, Eagle Island and Chambers Island. Samuel A. Starrow, a very keen observer who in 1817 visited these shores, speaks of Eagle Island as follows: "On the morning of the 17th (of September, 1817) we stopped at several islands, one of which contained a small miniature harbor, and the marks of Indian cultivation. The cabins were deserted, but on exploring the island we found the dead body of a man extended on a scaffold, after the manner of the Chippewas. Implements of the chase were at his side, and at the foot of the scaffold, the remnants of a deer." <sup>4</sup>

Chambers Island with its easily tilled sandy soil and its proximity to the best fishing grounds in Green Bay will very likely yield large finds of Indian remains. When Mr. Dennett built his house there the excavation encroached upon a large mound where six or seven skeletons were unearthed. Mr. Dennett gave orders to move the site of the house and cover up the mound.

<sup>4</sup> Wisconsin Hist. Col., VI, page 166.

To add to our information on Indian remains the following report by Geo. A. West to the Wisconsin Archeological Society is appended:

"An Indian village appears to have existed on lot 2, section 14, town 29, range 27 east, and was bounded by Hibbard Creek on the north, on the east by about the present highway running north and south, and extending south and west fully half a mile. Although the ground has been under cultivation for a score of years, many places show evidence of arrow making and camp life. On the north side of Hibbard Creek, and 300 yards west of the village site are seven pitfalls or ancient excavations, I judge from the lay of the country, used as terminals of game drives. These holes are at present 6 to 8 feet across, the edges slightly caved in, and still more than 4 feet deep. They are much filled up but were doubtless below the water level of the creek; they are located a few yards apart, and in line of what was doubtless a crossing or ford of the creek. A resident informed me of the existence of another set of these holes or traps, some distance up the same creek.

"The archeological finds of this site are confined to a few chipped arrow points, half a dozen copper spears and knives, a few stone axes, and a number of badly decomposed bone needles and harpoon points.

"On the east of this village site, and lying between it and Lake Michigan on a strip of land averaging about 200 yards wide, and a half a mile long, the south part of same being occupied by some of the buildings of Jackson Port, is an ancient Indian cemetery. The surface consists of three sandy ripple marks or beach lines, which have been considerably cut into and disfigured by the wind. The surface of these 'blow outs' is literally strewn with fragments of human bones, the remains of dozens of dead, broken and badly decomposed, being exposed to sight. Human bones are not alone in evidence, for those of nearly every wild animal formerly inhabiting this territory were recognizable. In walking over this ghastly place I noticed a portion of a cranium just above the sand, and with the assistance of a sharp stick the whole skeleton, although in fragments, was brought to the light of day. With it was found a copper kettle, holding about two pints, with heavy iron bail nearly rusted away. In the right hand was a broken pipe, a bear's tooth and bone needle. Time did not permit of further investigation. A fine specimen of portrait pipe, now in

author's collection, was found here, under a pine stump 3 feet in diameter. Two other broken stone pipes, and the much rusted portion of a flint lock gun, also in the author's collection, were secured from Mr. L. H. Erskine of Jackson Port. The several specimens of white man's manufacture found in this cemetery would indicate that it was at least used since the advent of the whites.

"Another small village site is reported as being located about five miles southwest of the Jackson Port site. This part of the Green Bay peninsula was formerly occupied by the Winnebagos or 'Men of the Sea.'

#### DETROIT ISLAND CEMETERIES

"An Indian burial ground is located on lot 1, sec. 24, town 33, range 29 east, Detroit Island. This cemetery extends about a hundred yards back from the beach line and contains about two acres of land. The soil is of coarse gravel and overgrown with juniper and other shrubs. The whole surface has been dug over by tourists and fishermen, and many fine specimens taken from the graves, nearly all of which were of historic manufacture. Stone implements are found here, associated with the trade ax and copper or brass kettle. As the result of several hours of hard work we excavated ten graves, nine of which had been previously explored, a thing of course we could not determine until after the skeleton was reached. One interment had not been disturbed, and contained a massive skeleton, found 16 inches below the surface, buried in a sitting position, facing the east. In his right hand was a small, silver ornament in the form of a buckle, and a chipped gun flint. The bones were badly decomposed and this interment—and in fact those of the whole cemetery, were probably made within historic times. I have been informed that numerous relics, made by the whites, have been secured here.

#### CEMETERY NO. 2

"On lot 2, sec. 24, same island, is another Indian burying ground that comes down to the beach, facing Des Mottes, contains about two acres, and from the class of relics found here (and it has been thoroughly dug over) one is forced to conclude that it dates back to about the time of the French and Indian wars.

## HISTORY OF DOOR COUNTY

## PENINSULA BLUFF CEMETERY

"An Indian burying ground lies across the Door from Detroit Island on lot 4, sec. 4, town 32, range 29, near Peninsula Bluff. This ground has been dug over time and again, and is of the same character, except that the skeletons are in much better state of preservation than in the last mentioned ground. There was a tradition among the Indians who last inhabited Washington Isle, that a great battle was fought on Detroit Isle, and followed up on the mainland; that the last two mentioned cemeteries contain the remains of those slaughtered in this battle.

## WASHINGTON HARBOR CEMETERY

"One of unknown extent, from which few remains have been taken, probably because its location forbade promiscuous digging, is located on the hillside, about fifty rods northwest of the Furlong's dock, Washington Harbor.

"A cache of seven trade axes was lately found in Detroit Island. A fine copper ax, now in H. P. Hamilton's collection, was found on Plum Island.

"The islands of Green Bay are certainly rich in antiquities, thousands of specimens having been carried away by tourists in years gone by, and, as the land is cleared, thousands more will come to light.

"Early comers to Wisconsin found the islands of Green Bay inhabited by the Pottawatomie Indians. Longfellow is said to have received an inspiration from these Indians, resulting in his 'Hiawatha.' Their name translated means 'those who make a keep fire,' it being a custom of these people to always keep a burning fire, with religious significance. They were driven from Michigan to Wisconsin by their enemies, the Iroquois; the Sioux were also their enemies."

## CHAPTER IV

### HISTORICAL TRADITIONS OF THE INDIAN TRIBES OF THE DOOR COUNTY PENINSULA

La Potherie, a French historian who lived in the latter part of the seventeenth century, thus writes of the conditions of life among the Indians of the Green Bay region:

"The country is a beautiful one, and they have fertile fields planted with Indian corn. Game is abundant at all seasons, and in winter they hunt bears and beavers. They hunt deer at all times, and they even catch wild fowl in nets. In autumn there is a prodigious abundance of ducks, both black and white, of excellent flavor, and the savages stretch nets in certain places when these fowl alight to feed upon the wild rice. Then advancing silently in their canoes, they draw them up alongside of the nets in which the birds have been caught. They also capture pigeons in their nets in the summer. They make in the woods wide paths in which they spread large nets in the shape of a bag and attached at each side to the trees; and they make a little hut of branches in which they hide. When the pigeons in their flight get within this open space, the savages pull a small cord which is drawn through the edge of the nets and thus capture sometime five or six hundred birds in one morning, especially in windy weather. All the year around they fish for sturgeon and for herring in the autumn; and in winter they have fruits. \* \* \* This fishery suffices to maintain large villages. They also gather wild rice and acorns. Accordingly, the peoples of the bay can live in utmost comfort."<sup>1</sup>

The great abundance of Indian remains, particularly along the shores of Northern Door County, including scores of well-marked village sites, prove to us that the Indians found this a most congenial place of habitation. In some places, flint flakes and pottery remains cover the ground a foot or more in depth, showing that here for generations the arrow-makers and the housewives had their workshops. Here was an abundance of fish and fowl. Here was corn and honey. Here was deer, and bear, and beaver, yielding the most

<sup>1</sup> La Potherie's *Amer. Septentrionale*, pp. 80, 81.



savory food and best of skins for wear and ornament. Here, as Dablon writes, was the paradise of the Indians.

Amid such favorable conditions, why should not great manhood and noble characters be developed? True, the Indians did not attain many of the arts and accomplishments of the present age, but neither did the people of Homer. Yet, thanks to his matchless pen, we know that among his people there were some who were just as dauntless of spirit, just as noble of mind, just as lovable of soul as are the people of today. Perhaps, if the Indian had had a Homer, an interpreter, we would find that among them, too, were men and women of just as excellent moral fiber as Hector and Andromache, just as sagacious as Ulysses, just as steadfast as patient Penelope, just as pleasing as the peaceful Pheacians. They lived and loved and suffered. They had their domestic and tribal dramas. They had men of great prowess rise in their midst and draw the admiration of far and near, but of this we know little or nothing. And knowing nothing, we simply think of the Indian as an indolent and bloodthirsty brute, without a soul, a cross between an animal and a fiend!

Human nature is much the same in every age and in every community. Given the poet, the true historian, who can rightly interpret the achievements of his people, these would in almost every community attain almost epic grandeur.

There is a side to the Indian character of which we know little. We see it dimly typified through the fog of oblivion in the person of Tomah, the great chief of the Menominees and the overlord of all the Indians of the Green Bay region—the Pontiac of Wisconsin—who could boast that his hands had never been defiled by human blood. It is also typified in the creation of the Hiawatha legend which, according to Schoolcraft, had its birth in the same region. The creation of such characters as the industrious Hiawatha, the wise Nokomis and the gentle Minnehaha, show us that they were not foreign to the ideals of the people that adopted them.

But the peaceful traditions of this side of the Indian's nature have been overshadowed and forgotten by the more dramatic recollections of the great wars they took part in. The traditions that follow all deal with the great wars, the terrible sieges, the awful pestilences that the Indians of the peninsula suffered in the latter half of the seventeenth century and which make such a profound impression upon their minds. The Green Bay region and particularly the Door County peninsula was for ages the battleground, first between the

Algonquins and the Dahkotas, and then between the Algonquins and the Iroquois. When the various Algonquin tribes—the Ottawas, the Sauks, the Foxes, the Potawatomis, the Menominees, were driven westward by the invincible arm of the Iroquois they found this new country even more pleasant than the lands from which they had been expelled. Here they were content to dwell in a land of plenty, but here too they were opposed by the terrible Winnebagos, who had come up from the southwest and subjugated all the country before them. Between these two nations—the Algonquin tribes from the East and the Winnebagos, a branch of the Dahkotas, from the Southwest—there followed a long period of warfare of varying success which seems to have reached its climax about the time of Nicolet's visit in 1634.

When Nicolet arrived, he found on the Door County peninsula two groups of Indians. One was a small village of mixed Indians at the mouth of the bay, the other was the Winnebagos, strongly intrenched and fortified in a city containing four or five thousand men besides women and children at Red Banks, twelve miles northeast of the present City of Green Bay.<sup>2</sup> Of the village at the mouth of the bay we are told that it was "composed of people gathered from various nations (Potawatomis, Sacs and Menominees), who, wishing to commend themselves to their neighbors, have cleared some land there, and affect to entertain all who pass that way. Liberality is a characteristic greatly admired among the savages; and it is the proper thing for the chiefs to lavish all their possessions, if they desire to be esteemed. Accordingly, they have exerted themselves to receive strangers hospitably, who find among them whatever provision are in season. And they like nothing better than to hear that others are praising their generosity."<sup>3</sup>

This village of kindly-disposed Indians "at the entrance to the bay" was probably on Washington Island, where there are numerous large village sites, showing that it has been very populous inhabited by Indians. It is claimed by archeologists that no tract of equal area in the State of Wisconsin exhibits so many evidences of Indians' occupation as Washington Island.<sup>4</sup>

The village was probably made up chiefly of Potawatomis, as these islands from early times have been called Potawatomi Islands. It is evident that Nicolet stopped among these hospitable and intel-

<sup>2</sup> *Jesuit Relations* (Cleveland reissue), XXIII, pp. 275-279.

<sup>3</sup> *La Potherie*, page 69.

<sup>4</sup> See Geo. B. Fox' article on Indian Remains on Washington Island, in the *Wisconsin Archeologist*, Madison, Wis., for January, 1915.

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ligent Indians for some time and from them obtained the information about the Indian tribes of the region which was later recorded in the *Jesuit Relations* and by La Potherie.

The Winnebagos, to whom he was journeying, were at that time the most formidable people of Wisconsin. According to Jonathan Carver, who spent some time with them in 1766,<sup>5</sup> they originally came from Mexico and had traditions of battles with the Spaniards, whom they intensely hated. They were the only tribe in Wisconsin that used horses and they were the fiercest of warriors. They were very perfidious, superstitious and insolent, and not only took the scalps of their enemies but devoured their bodies at their feasts. When they came to the Door County peninsula, they found the land occupied by the Potawatomis. The Potawatomis, who are described as being the most affable and generous of the Wisconsin tribes, were willing to divide the land with them, as there was plenty of room for both. But the arrogant Winnebagos would listen to no peace proposals, but made war upon the scattered villages of the Potawatomis at every opportunity. Fleeing before superior numbers, the Potawatomis were finally compelled to leave the peninsula and take refuge among their brethren upon the islands, where here also was a village of Menominees and Sacs. Yet not even here would the insatiable Winnebagos leave them in peace. They marched an army to the north end of the peninsula, made canoes, and with many human sacrifices and invocations of the Great Spirit made ready to make an onslaught upon the islanders.

The Potawatomis were early apprised of the coming of their enemies. After hurried deliberation, the chiefs decided that their best course was to send an army across the strait and attack the Winnebagos in the rear at such a time as they might be unprepared for attack. Three spies were therefore sent across with instructions at the right time to build a signal fire upon a certain bluff, by which the Potawatomis would be guided in making a landing on the dangerous and rock-bound shore.

These spies unfortunately fell into the hands of the invaders, who subjected them to frightful tortures. Rather than reveal their mission, two of them perished at the stake. The third, however, was finally bribed to disclose his secret.

With great glee the crafty Winnebagos now prepared to turn this stratagem to the destruction of their enemies. Upon a dark and windy night, the signal fire was built, not upon the bluff selected

<sup>5</sup> See Jonathan Carver's "Travels through the Indian Parts of North America in 1766-1768."

by the Potawatomis, but upon another nearby, whose precipitous base afforded no landing place. Simultaneously they sent a small detachment of brave warriors in canoes by a circuitous route to fall upon the defenceless camp of the Potawatomis.

Encamped upon Detroit Island, their canoes ready, the Potawatomis saw the appointed signal fire leap into the air. Several hundred strong they immediately pushed off, regardless of the wind which was not favorable for crossing. During the passage the wind increased and blew with great violence, so that they could not return if they had wanted to. However, they made the crossing in safety, but instead of finding a beach favorable for landing, they found their frail canoes thrown against precipitous rocks against which they were crushed like eggshells. Some attempted to turn back, but their canoes were quickly swamped in the breakers. Others clung to the crags and roots of trees, but were quickly tomahawked by the exultant Winnebagos.

A shelf of rock jutted out at the base of the cliff just out of reach of the waves. Here about thirty of the Potawatomis managed to clamber up with their tomahawks in their belts. Standing here between the roaring sea and the fierce Winnebagos above them, they chanted their death song, defying the Winnebagos to come and get their scalps. With teeth gritting like dogs, with a thirst for blood like wolves, the younger men among the Winnebagos could no longer contain themselves, but leaped down upon their prey. Here they were met by the Potawatomis who cleaved them with their tomahawks as they fell. Again the eager Winnebagos could not contain themselves but leaped down in greater numbers than before. Each seized his enemy and a desperate struggle ensued, when suddenly a great wave came out of the stormy deep and sucked the fighting savages off the shelf into the sea where they all perished.

The canoe party of the Winnebagos fared no better. Soon they found themselves wallowing in a terrible sea out of sight of land. Unused to navigating the rough waters of this channel, their canoes one by one were swamped and they all perished.

For a whole day the Winnebagos stood upon the cliffs watching for the return of their victorious canoe party. None, however, returned. Then as they saw the wreckage of their canoes drift in on the shores, they understood that their brethren had perished in the storm. They took this as an omen that they must never attempt to cross that "Door of Death" which it afterward was called.<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> This tradition was received by the early fishermen who settled on the islands about 1840 from the Indians who lived there. It is also mentioned by several early travelers.

The ill-fated Potawatomis now lived in enforced quietness upon the islands at the mouth of the bay. They endeavored by the greatest hospitality and affability to ingratiate themselves with the Indians of other tribes, who passed that way with the hope of gaining their alliance at a time when they would again be able to take the offensive against the Winnebagos and retake the land of their fathers. These arrogant conquerors, however, now believed themselves the most powerful people on earth. Their villages were scattered all the way down the peninsula,<sup>7</sup> and from here they meditated expeditions of conquest against more distant nations.

The tradition next recorded deals with a great siege which took place around a palisaded village which probably was built on both sides of the creek that empties out of Kangaroo Lake.

At the time of these events (about 1650), a great war had been waged between the Iroquois and the Ottawas in the country south-east of Lake Huron. The latter being overcome finally fled westward, a large body of them, together with some Hurons, settling on Washington Island at the mouth of Green Bay.<sup>8</sup> Still fearing attacks from their enemies, they kept a scouting party of picked men on foot in their old country near the present City of Detroit, to give them notice of the approach of the enemy.

(See Storrow and Stambaugh.) Captain Brink, one of the Government engineers who surveyed this part of Door County in 1834 mentions this tradition as follows: "The Indians say that a whole tribe of Indians, 300 in number, lost their lives one night near the big bluff that is called 'Death's Door,' and that is why the spot was given such a dismal name. As the story goes the tribe was to land in canoes near the spot where they are said to have lost their lives and surprise their enemies, who were encamped near by. They were betrayed, however, by one of their number who was to notify them by a fire on the beach as to the best place to make the landing. Instead of building the fire on a hill about a quarter of a mile further up the lake, the signal was placed on the bluff, and when the 300 Indians attempted to make the landing at 'Death's Door' they were dashed against rocks and perished. That is how the spot is said to have obtained its name." The French early adopted the Indian name of the channel and translated it into *Porte des Morts*—Death's Door. This was later abbreviated to "the Door." As the first settlers of Door County at the time of its organization lived down at "the Door," this was taken as the name of the county.

<sup>7</sup> Spoon Deorah's recital of the traditions of his people in W. H. S. Col. XIII, page 457, says that before the Winnebagos moved to Red Banks, they lived below (North of) Red Banks. "There was a high bluff there which enclosed a lake." This is, no doubt, a reminiscence of the precipitous shore of Northern Door County, from which Green Bay looks like a lake.

<sup>8</sup> See Jules Tailhan's annotation, on page 214, of his edition of Perrot's "*Memoire etc. des Sauvages de l'Amerique Septentrionale*." His belief that this island was Washington Island is supported by several interior evidences in the narration that follows: (a) the Ottawas retreated from this island "to Mechingan," meaning, presumably, along the shore of Mechingan (Lake Michigan); (b) when the Iroquois "pushed further on" (up the lake) they encountered the Illinois who were then living in Northern Illinois; (c) when the Ottawas fled from their fort they, according to Perrot, pushed up the Fox and down the Wisconsin until they reached the Mississippi. All of which indicates that the great siege was on some point of the Door County peninsula.

After about a year of watching, these scouts one day discovered a large force of Iroquois marching westward. Hastening back to Washington Island, they sounded the alarm of the dreaded enemy. The Ottawas and Hurons, not finding the conditions suitable for defense on the island because of lack of running streams needed to supply water in case of siege, retreated to the mainland to the south.<sup>o</sup> Here they erected their village in a strategical position and fortified it very strongly with a high stockade of logs. As the Iroquois did not know where to seek the Ottawas, they had time to complete their preparations and lay in an abundant supply of food, including a large crop of corn.

Finally the Iroquois appeared before the walls of their village with a force of no less than eight hundred warriors. They were greatly baffled to find that the Ottawas were so well entrenched—their fort seemed to them impregnable. Still they kept up a siege, with many sallies by night for two years. Finding all their valor and stratagems unavailing and being in danger of starvation because of the scarcity of game, the Iroquois were finally compelled to propose a treaty of peace. In order to deliberate on the terms, six chiefs of the Iroquois were hoisted over the palisades into the Ottawa fort, while six Ottawa chiefs were entrusted to the Iroquois as hostages. The Iroquois bound themselves to depart in peace and make no war upon the Ottawas and Hurons in the future and, in addition, agreed to give up all the prisoners which they had taken in former battles which they now had with them as slaves. In return for this the Allies agreed to give to the Iroquois food in exchange for blankets and ornaments of beads and shells. A time of friendly barter now followed, but the Ottawas, fearing treachery, permitted only a few Iroquois to enter the fort at a time and these were hoisted over the palisades.

The day of the departure of the Iroquois, the Ottawas announced that they wished to present every man among the Iroquois a loaf of corn bread. This announcement was received with great joy among the half starved Iroquois. The Ottawas, however, feeling revengeful for many past injuries at the hands of the Iroquois, had prepared

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<sup>o</sup> Probably to Hein's Creek, about four miles south of the village of Bailey's Harbor. Here a small watercourse furnishing a steady supply of water the year around could furnish water for the fort. Schumacher says: "Here is perhaps the largest village site on the peninsula. \* \* \* It is protected on the east by Lake Michigan, on the north and west by a swamp. The ground is thickly covered with broken pottery. \* \* \* In several places the ground is covered to a depth of over a foot with flint flakes, showing work shop sites of arrow makers." See his report on Indian Remains in Door County.

a posion which they mixed in every loaf. A Huron woman who was married to an Iroquois warrior had learned of this scheme from her relatives within the fort and warned her son not to eat of the bread because of the poison. He quickly warned the others. When the bread was tossed down, the Iroquois first gave it to their dogs who died after eating it. Seeing this evidence of treachery, they departed with empty stomachs.

Being greatly in need of food, the Iroquois now divided their forces. The smaller part embarked in canoes and soon met with a force of Chippewas (in Northern Michigan), by whom they were defeated, very few escaping. The main force pushed southward along the shore (of Lake Michigan) and eventually came to the land of the Illinois Indians. Here they began to pillage and murder. The Illinois, however, gathered a great force together, surprised the marauders and almost exterminated them. Very few Iroquois returned to their homes in the East to tell of their three years' disastrous campaign in the West.

The Ottawas, fearing a renewed attack in larger force from their implacable enemies, thought it wise policy to ally themselves with their formidable neighbors, the Winnebagos. They therefore sent envoys to them, bearing messages of peace and friendship and many presents, such as knives, needles, hatchets and articles of ornament. The insolent Winnebagos, however, disdainful of any alliance, received the messages and presents, and thereupon killed and ate the emissaries.

This shocking outrage greatly incensed not only the Ottawas, but all the other tribes in the Green Bay region. A league of war was formed to exterminate the Winnebagos and many expeditions were made against them. For awhile the latter held their own, but finding their scattered villages were exposed to surprise attacks by the enemy, they moved southward and concentrated at Red Banks, a high hill overlooking Green Bay. Here they built a great stockade, with a deep ditch or moat on the outside. Still numbering four or five thousand men they were able to resist their enemies successfully.

Before long, however, another enemy more terrible than the Ottawas overtook them. The filth caused by their congested quarters resulted in a great sickness which killed thousands of them. For awhile the terrible plague swept through the great town so rapidly that they were unable to bury the dead which lay rotting in the sun while the survivors lay upon their beds of sickness, groaning with pain. Within a short time their number was reduced to 1,500 men.

Yet even this dreadful visitation did not stop their plans for conquest. No sooner did the plague pass away but they determined to send a strong force against the Outagamis, or Foxes, a numerous people who lived on the other side of the bay. This was probably about where the present Village of Pensaukee is located. Five hundred warriors fitted out with arms and warpaint set out in canoes to cross Green Bay. On the way, however, a gale of wind overtook them and the entire force perished.

Finally, to fill their cup of misery, the Winnebagos were threatened with starvation. The many raids which their enemies had made upon them had dispersed the game and now it came to pass that it was impossible for them to find the necessary food.

Upon seeing all these afflictions overtake them, their old enemies, the Potawatomis, the Ottawas and other tribes, had compassion upon them and forbore to attack them any more. One tribe even went further. The Illinois, a gentle, noble-minded people, living some distance away,<sup>10</sup> took pity upon the famished Winnebagos and sent 500 young men to them with food and presents. Among these 500 were 50 great chiefs of the Illinois.

But all the adversities that had overtaken the Winnebagos had in no wise changed their perfidious hearts. They believed that the souls of their departed, particularly those slain in battle, could not rest in peace unless their relatives avenged their death. The 500 men sent to fight the Outagamis had met their death and not one enemy had been slain to avenge them. They therefore longed with the greatest superstitious zeal to find some victims whose blood would relieve the shades of their own departed from further unrest.

When the news came of the approach of the 500 Illinois, laden with gifts, the medicine men worked themselves into a religious frenzy. Here, they declared, was just the right number of victims to atone for the death of their own warriors. The 500 Illinois must be seized and sacrificed to the shades of the departed or the plague would return and devour the remainder of the people. Somewhat perplexed about the prudence of this course, the people finally adopted it.

When the Illinois arrived, they and their gifts were received with great show of gratitude and rejoicing. A huge cabin was erected to house the guests and sports were arranged for their entertainment.

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<sup>10</sup> In Saint-Lusson's *Proces-Verbal*, June 14, 1671, quoted in W. H. S. Col. XI, pp. 26, 27, the Illinois are twice mentioned as being neighbors of the Ottawas, Potawatomis and Sauks. At the time of these events, they may have lived in Southern Wisconsin.



Then the Winnebagos made ready a dance expressly for their guests. While the unsuspecting Illinois became more and more animated in the dance, the treacherous hosts cut their bow strings and then upon a signal flung themselves upon the dancers. All were massacred, not one escaping, and a great feast was made of their flesh.

When this horrible orgy was over, even the perfidious Winnebagos were filled with remorse over their treachery and ingratitude. The Illinois were a mighty nation and they knew that sure punishment would be meted out to them. They did not dare to remain in their fortress at Red Banks, but moved to an island in Green Bay, where they thought to be more safe because the Illinois did not use canoes. But the Illinois learned their whereabouts and waited until the bay was frozen over. Then they marched to the island on the ice, but found the whole tribe of Winnebagos, now greatly reduced by the plague and starvation, had left the island in a body on a hunting expedition. The Illinois pursued them and after six days caught up with them. In the resulting battle, all the Winnebagos were killed or taken captive except one man.<sup>11</sup>

The Outagamis<sup>12</sup> now took possession of the northern half of the (Door County) peninsula which had been evacuated by the Ottawas, while the Sauks left the islands and settled in the southern half, where they made the old Winnebago fort at Red Banks their headquarters. The Outagami headquarters were several large villages near the present Village of Jacksonport in Door County.<sup>13</sup>

From time to time small bands of daring Iroquois—the ancient enemy of these Algonquin tribes—would suddenly appear among them, deal them a crushing blow and then disappear as suddenly as they came. The sudden devastation of one of these Outagami villages, as recorded by Allouez, is an illustration of this.

In the winter of 1670, the Outagami warriors left their headquarters to go on a distant hunt. They were a populous people, number-

<sup>11</sup> For the above facts, see La Potherie's "*Amerique Septentrionale*," pp. 69-81. Father Claude Allouez, who for years labored among these tribes, corroborated this story and adds: "About thirty years ago (from A. D. 1677), all the people of this nation (the Winnebagos) were killed or taken captive by the Illinois except one man." *Jesuit Relations*, LIV, page 237. See also Charlevoix' *Journal Historique* (Paris, 1744), pp. 290-296.

<sup>12</sup> The Outagamis are better known under their later name of Renards, or Foxes.

<sup>13</sup> Allouez, who visited the Outagamis within a month after the events recorded, says it was "two days' journey from the place of our winter quarters at the foot of the Lake of the Illinois, which is called Machihiganing (Michigan)." *Jesuit Relations* LIV, pp. 12-16. His winter headquarters at that time was one day's journey north of the mouth of Fox River. Two days' journey from this place toward the foot of Lake Michigan could not be farther down than the vicinity of Jacksonport. Very abundant village remains have there been found.

ing more than four hundred warriors, while their women and children (being a polygamous people) numbered several thousand. While they were away on the hunt, a small band of Iroquois from the vicinity of Niagara Falls appeared on the peninsula. These may have been a part of the large force of Iroquois who had been defeated in the recent attack upon the Ottawas. They were now prowling around the camps of the Potawatomis looking for scalps.

The Potawatomis had some Iroquois prisoners who lived among them as slaves. Two of these slaves were induced to join the marauding band of Iroquois. These slaves told of the defenseless villages of the Outagamis a little way down the shore. An attack was planned by the little band—there were only eighteen Iroquois in the party—and they proceeded to one of the villages. In the darkness of the night, the fearful wacry of the Iroquois was heard. The six warriors who were left to guard the village were overpowered and killed. Then followed an awful carnage of women and children, more than one hundred being slaughtered. Only thirty of the fairest women were spared, being carried away as captives by the Iroquois.

When the Outagami hunters a short time afterward returned, they found their village deserted and in ruins, the bodies of their dead wives and children devoured by the wild beasts of the forest, their bones only remaining. In haste they moved away from the dreadful spot, not stopping until they had penetrated far into the interior of the state, on the headwaters of the Wolf River, probably in the vicinity of the present City of New London.<sup>14</sup>

Here Father Allouez in April, 1670, found them, depressed with fear and hunger. In a feast which they prepared for him, an old man among them arose and made the following pitiful and humble appeal to him: "This is well, Black Gown, that thou comest to visit us. Take pity on us! Thou art a Manitou. I give thee tobacco to smoke. The Naddonessious (Sioux) and the Iroquois are eating us. Take pity on us! We are often ill, our children are dying, we are hungry. Hear me, Manitou. I give thee tobacco to smoke. Let the earth give us corn and the rivers give us fish. Let not disease kill us any more, or famine treat us so harshly!"<sup>15</sup>

Meanwhile the Sauks, after settling in the old Winnebago fort at

<sup>14</sup> Jesuit Relations, LIV, page 237.

<sup>15</sup> Ibid. The Outagamis prospered greatly in their new location. A generation later we find them at the head of all tribes of Wisconsin, waging sanguine warfare against the French.

Red Banks,<sup>16</sup> waxed very mighty and arrogant. They were a brutal, savage tribe who lacked the common courtesies of the Indian people and soon gave offense to all. They frequently made prisoners of peaceable Indians traveling that way and sacrificed them upon a scaffold elevated above the ground for that purpose. Before the prisoner was burnt, he was required to name the principal men of his tribe, whereupon these were burnt in effigy. This was considered great sport by the brutal Sauks but a great indignity by the chiefs of other nations.

At one time an Ottawa Indian and his wife were taken prisoners and preparations were made to burn them. When the Ottawa was placed upon the scaffold, his courage failed him and he screamed with fear. At this the Sauks howled with joy. His wife then sprang upon the scaffold and said: "Your unmanly conduct gives pleasure to these savages. Let me show you how to die!" Thereupon she was tied to the stake and asked to name the chiefs of her tribe. Defiantly she told them she would give them the names of no worthy men to insult, but she would name one Sauk chief who would soon meet his doom because she had six brothers who would avenge her. With this she pointed to the principal Sauk chief and was burnt with a song of defiance upon her lips.

Little by little this story found its way until it reached the ears of Nangadook, her oldest brother, at the mouth of the bay. In silence Nangadook heard of the brave death of his sister. Then he sent the war belt and war pipe to all the different tribes in the north country and asked them to join him in punishing these insolent Sauks, who had treated with insult all the chiefs of the tribes that dwelt in that region. They came, the Potawatomis, the Menominees, the Chippewas and many others, an immense flotilla of canoes filled with warriors. When all had assembled, they proceeded up the bay to Red River, a few miles north of the Sauk village. Here their canoes lined the beach for two miles so thick that none could be crowded in. Silently the army made its way through the forest in the darkness of the night until they had completely encircled the large village of the Sauks. Then before proceeding to attack they laid down to rest.

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<sup>16</sup> Rev. Alfred Brunson in his interesting article on "Early Wisconsin," in W. H. S. Col. IV, pp. 237, 238, attempts to prove that the Sauks did not settle in Wisconsin until about 1760. However, Nicolet mentions them as occupying a village on the islands at the mouth of Green Bay in company with the Potawatomis in 1634. See La Potherie's "Amerique Septentrionale," page 69. His (Nicolet's) observation cannot very well be set aside.

A young Sauk woman had that same night been given against her will to a Sauk who lived some distance from the village. During the night she ran away from her husband and returned to her father. On her way, she passed the line of the sleeping besiegers and discovered that an unbroken line of an unknown enemy encircled the village. With terror she ran to her father's cabin and awakened him saying: "We are all dead!" However, thinking only of how her husband had dragged her off the night before, her father only laughed at her, reproaching her for her temper. Greatly enraged by the ill treatment she had received, both from her husband and father, she said no more but rolled up in her blanket and went to sleep.

Early the next morning the Sauks were awakened by the great battle cry of their allied enemies and a terrific onslaught ensued. A part of the great stockade was broken down and the Sauks, taken unaware, were slaughtered in great numbers. However, they rallied, drove the invaders back and fought stubbornly all day, while hundreds were killed on both sides. For many days and nights afterward the battle raged with great fierceness, but the deep moat dug by the Winnebagos and the high wall greatly protected the Sauks. Soon, however, they were attacked by another enemy—thirst. Again and again they made desperate sallies down the steep slope to get water, but were each time met by the watchful besiegers. Soon the slope was strewn with dead.

The heat of the burning sun, the terrible suffering from lack of water, became intolerable to the Sauks and they saw that they would soon miserably perish from thirst, even if they could repel the attackers. They therefore planned a stratagem to escape. Standing one evening upon the walls, waving a flag of truce, their heralds called to the besieging chiefs and said: "Our great chief, Ahkeenan-dodaug, is dead! Give us tonight to bury him in a manner befitting his rank and we will resume fighting tomorrow!" This prayer was granted and the besiegers, weary with much fighting, slept heavily that night. The next morning, when they with renewed vigor resumed the assault, they were amazed to find the enemy was not there. Stealing quietly out between the sleeping ranks of the enemy, the Sauks fled far to the southward, not stopping until they reached the upper Fox River above Lake Winnebago. After pursuing the enemy, Nangadook returned with his forces and leveled the old Sauk and Winnebago capital to the ground. Since then no Indians have had a village on that cursed spot.<sup>17</sup>

<sup>17</sup> The above narrative of the Sauks at Red Banks is handed down to us in two independent traditions—one from the Menominees (as narrated by Chas. D. Robinson in "Legend

After the defeat of the Sauks, no great battle or feud has taken place among the Indians of the peninsula. A band of Ottawas settled on Detroit Island, which came to be looked upon as the ancient seat of their tribe.<sup>18</sup> The Potawatomis after a time moved away from the islands and resumed their peaceful dominion of the peninsula. The many war parties which had overrun the peninsula had greatly depleted the game and it did not offer the happy conditions of life as formerly. When therefore Captain Cadillac a few years later invited them and other tribes to settle in Southern Michigan to build up a great trading post at Detroit and to close the way against the Iroquois, the Potawatomis accepted his invitation and moved to Southern Michigan. Here they built a village at the mouth of St. Joseph River and another at Detroit. Only a few remained on the Door County peninsula. About 1812 some of the Potawatomis from St. Joseph River moved to Chicago where they perpetrated the Fort Dearborn Massacre.

As to the terrible Winnebagoes—this Ishmael among Indian nations—who once played such a savage part on the peninsula, their power was thoroughly broken. When the Illinois released their captives, a few returned to their old hunting grounds, where they were looked upon as thieves and robbers. The larger number settled on the shores of Lake Winnebago. From here they spread westward and settled on the headwaters of the Fox River in the vicinity of the present City of Portage, where Jonathan Carver and Peter Pond found them in the latter part of the eighteenth century. The first settlers who came to Wisconsin about 1830 found them in Southwestern Wisconsin and Northeastern Illinois, claiming possession of the lead mines, and in Northeastern Iowa. Being in the way of the immigrants who rushed westward, they were in 1848 deported 400 miles into the wilderness to the present Todd County in Minnesota. They refused to stay here and many streamed back to Wisconsin the following year. They were then taken to the vicinity of Mankato and later far up the Missouri, to the Crow and Creek reservation. Being unable to keep them there, a reservation of 128,000

of the Red Banks," in W. H. S. Col., II, pp. 491-494), and the other from the Chippewas (as narrated by Geo. Johnston in "Osawgenong—a Sac Tradition," in W. H. S. Col. XV, pp. 448-451). Although they differ in minor details, there can be no doubt that they tell the same story. The parallel walls twenty-five feet long in the center of the village, which Mr. Robinson saw in 1856, were probably the base of the sacrificial altar mentioned in the narrative. Mr. Geo. Fox also reports its currency in the old Indian haunts on the Pensaukee, Little Suamico and Big Suamico, where was the great village of Oussouamigong. See his article in Wisconsin Archeologist, April, 1913, pp. 127-129.

<sup>18</sup> See Samuel A. Storrow's "Northwest in 1817," in W. H. S. Col. VI, page 165.

acres was set aside for them in Dakota County, Nebraska. By 1873 most of them were back in Wisconsin again, whereupon another order was issued to deport them. They were kicked and beaten and handcuffed and prodded with bayonets, but still clung to their native soil. In spite of their hardships and many deportations, there are still about fifteen hundred left in Wisconsin, living mostly north of Tomah and east of Black River Falls, where they receive an annuity from the Federal Government.

The above account is called "traditions," which does not give a correct impression of its significance. It would be more correct to call it history in practically all respects except definite dates. It is corroborated by, and largely based upon, the reports of the early Jesuit missionaries and fur traders who sojourned in this region immediately after the events recorded transpired.

## CHAPTER V

### EARLY FRENCH EXPLORERS IN DOOR COUNTY

A short time after Nicolet returned to Quebec from his western trip, Champlain, the enterprising governor of the French possessions in America, died. With him also passed away the spirit of exploration for many years. His successor, Montmagny, was not interested in extending the French dominion to remote regions but quietly governed the affairs of the colony at home.

#### RADISSON AND GROSSELLIERS

About twenty-five years after Nicolet's visit we come to the next visitors to the West. These were Radisson and Grosselliers, two picturesque and romantic soldiers of fortune, who traveled about for many years in this savage wilderness, apparently with no greater object than to seek adventure and "to be known with the remotest peoples." In both of these ambitions they were abundantly gratified. They stayed for a while with an Indian tribe, joined them in their wars, performed wonders of slaughter with their guns and then went on to the next tribe to be worshiped as divinities.

In the course of these wanderings they in the fall of 1658 crossed Lakes Huron and Michigan and arrived in the land of the Potawatomis. These Indians were a very hospitable and generous tribe, quite intelligent and affable, who lived on Washington Island and the neighboring lands. According to all accounts they loved nothing better than to entertain strangers who passed that way. Pressed by their hospitality, Radisson and Grosselliers spent the entire winter with the Potawatomis, thus becoming the first white men who sojourned for any length of time within the limits of Door County. Radisson does not tell much of their experience here but notes that it was a succession of feasts and that the time was spent with "a great deal of mirth."<sup>1</sup>

"The Potawatomis make their cabins of apaquois (mats); these are made of reeds. All this work is done by the women. This na-

<sup>1</sup> See Radisson's Narrative reprinted in W. H. S. Col., XI, page 68.

tion is well clothed like our savages resident at Montreal. The only occupation of the men is to hunt and to adorn themselves. They use a great deal of vermillion. They use many buffalo robes, highly ornamented, to cover themselves in winter; and in the summer they wear red and blue cloth. In summer they play a great deal at lacrosse, twenty or more at each side. Their bat (crosse) is a sort of a small racket, and the ball with which they play is of very heavy wood, a little larger than the balls we use in playing tennis. When they play they are entirely naked; they have only a breech-clout and shoes of deer-skin. Their bodies are painted all over with all kinds of colors. There are some who paint their bodies with white clay, applying it to resemble silver lace on all the seams of a coat; and at a distance one would take it for silver lace.

"They play for large sums, and often the prize amounts to more than 800 livres \* \* \*. They set up two goals and begin their play midway between. One party drives the ball one way, and the other in the opposite direction, and those who can drive it to the goal are the winners. All this is very diverting and interesting to behold. Often one village plays against another, the Poux (Potawatomis) against the Ottawas or the Hurons, for very considerable prizes. The French frequently take part in these games. The women work in the fields, raising very fine Indian corn, beans, peas, squashes and melons. In the evening the women and the girls dance. They adorn themselves liberally, grease their hair, put on white chemises, and paint their faces with vermillion, also putting on all the porcelain beads they possess, so after their fashion they look very well dressed. They dance to the sound of the drum and the rattle, which is a sort of a gourd with pillets of lead inside. There are four or five young men who sing and keep time by beating the drum and the rattle, while the women dance to the rhythm and do not miss a step. This is a very pretty sight and it lasts almost all night. Often the old men dance the Medilinne (medicine-dance); they look like a band of sorcerers. All this is done at night. The young men often dance in the daytime, and strike at the posts. It is in this dance they recount their exploits. On such occasions they also dance the scout dance.<sup>2</sup> They are always well adorned

<sup>2</sup> Charlevoix describes these dances in his *Journal Historique*, pp. 296-297. The first of these he calls the "Calumet dance." Each warrior strikes the post with his hatchet, and relates his warlike deeds. Of the Scout dance Charlevoix says: "It is a lifelike representation of all that is done in a hostile expedition; and, since I have already stated, the savages usually aim mainly to take their enemies by surprise, it is doubtless for that reason that they have given to this exercise the name of scouting."



when they do this. \* \* \* When this nation goes hunting, which is in autumn, they carry their apaquois with them in order to make their cabins every evening. All the people go—men, women and children; and they (often) pass the winter in the woods and return in spring.” \*

NICHOLAS PERROT

It was not until thirty years after Nicolet's visit that the French governor-general at Quebec attempted to resume the work of developing the Western trade begun by Champlain. In 1665 Nicholas Perrot, an interpreter and agent of the governor, was sent to the great lakes to make treaties with them and open up the fur trade. Perrot was a very able and resourceful man. Though small in stature he had a commanding personality and a gift of forceful oratory which prompted the Indians to regard him with the greatest respect. Learning that the Potawatomis at that time were the most important tribe in the region of the lakes, he went to them and for a year or two made his headquarters on Washington Island.

When he first appeared among them he was received like a supernatural being. They offered him incense and praised the sun and the sky that one of the celestial beings had deigned to visit them. “Thou art one of the Chief Spirits,” they said, “since thou usest iron. It is for thee to rule and protect all men. Praised be the sun, which has instructed thee and sent thee to our country!” When he wished to walk about they insisted on carrying him in a blanket. Young men were sent ahead to clear the path and break away the limbs, and the women and children fell on their faces to the ground, not daring to look upon him when he passed. While refusing as much as possible this homage, he was able to keep up the respect which inspired it. When he arrived among them most of their young men had started on their first expedition to Montreal to trade with the French of whom they had heard through other tribes. Shortly after they had started war broke out between the Potawatomis and the Menominees who had their village two miles up the Menominee River. The Potawatomis, left defenseless, were therefore much afraid of being attacked by their enemies. But Perrot, hearing of this went to the Menominee village and there by his eloquence

\* From a MS. in archives of Ministère des Colonies, Paris; quoted in W. H. S. Col., XVI, pp. 366-368.

and a few presents succeeded in restoring peace and good fellowship.

The Potawatomis were very much concerned about the fate of their people who had gone to Montreal. They feared that they might have been overcome by the Iroquois or that the French had ill treated them. They therefore asked Perrot's guide who was a master juggler and medicine man to enlighten them. The juggler built himself a tower of poles and chanted several songs in which he invoked all the infernal spirits to tell him where the Potawatomis were. The reply was that they were at Manistee River three days' journey away and were bringing home much merchandise. This oracle was loudly acclaimed, but Perrot cast a damper on their spirits by calling the man a liar. The old men now begged Perrot to tell them when their people would return. He replied that such knowledge belonged only to God, but made a calculation of the length of the journey and their probable stay in Montreal and said the party could be looked for in about two weeks. There was now much excitement to see which was the better fortune teller, the conjurer or Perrot. Fifteen days later the canoes of the Montreal expedition were seen in the distance, their occupants firing off salvos of musketry with shouts and yells. When they were several hundred feet from the shore the two parties began to harangue each other. Those on shore told with no small exaggeration of the exploits of the great Frenchman who was among them. Upon hearing this the boat party all dressed up in their French finery jumped into the water and swam to the shore to welcome him.

Messengers were now sent to all the tribes round about even to the distant Illinois and Miamis living 400 miles away to come to the islands and trade with them and see the great Frenchman. The next year these Indians came, thousands of them and camped at the south end of Green Bay. The Miamis came with no less than three thousand men led by a great chief who ruled over them in great state like a veritable king. There was also a vast number of Indians of other tribes with many great chiefs. Here Perrot met them and was treated with the most profound reverence. Grand banquets, celebrations and ceremonies followed. Perrot made a rousing speech and told them how the soldiers of France would smooth the path between the Algonquins and Quebec; would brush the pirate canoes from the lakes and rivers; would leave the Iroquois no choice between tranquillity and destruction. To all of which his Indian auditors

shouted Ho! Ho! with the greatest approval. Treaties of eternal friendship were made, and arrangements were made to promote the fur trade. Perrot then returned to the Potawatomis when he organized an expedition of 900 men, made up in part of other tribes, to go with him to Montreal with a large cargo of peltries.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>4</sup> From La Potherie's "Amerique Septentrionale," pp. 85-118, where many interesting events of Perrot's visit among the Potawatomis are recorded.

## CHAPTER VI

### THE GREAT EXPLORERS

About this time began an era of great exploration which made known the wealth and vast area of the Western world to France. Practically all of these world-famous explorers paddled their way past the palisaded cliffs of Door County. They camped on its shores, they fished in its waters, they hunted in the interior for their sustenance, they admired its towering heights and beautiful bays, and while lingering here on the threshold of their great enterprise they reviewed while in the shelter of Door County's majestic headlands, the details of their lofty purpose.

The first of these explorers were Joliet and Marquette who in 1673 set out to discover and explore the Mississippi of which vague rumors had been heard from the Indians. The great river had, to be sure, been discovered fifteen years previously by the two adventurers, Radisson and Grosselliers, but this fact was not known until 100 years later. These two explorers do not seem to have touched on the Door County peninsula as they apparently followed the west shore. The only Indian tribe they mention are the Menominees who lived on the river of the same name. When these Indians heard of their project they did their best to dissuade them from it. They told the explorers that "they would meet nations that never spared strangers but tomahawked them without provocation; that all the inland tribes were at war; that the Great River was very dangerous unless the difficult parts were known; that it was full of frightful monsters who swallowed up men and canoes together; that there is even a demon there who can be heard from afar and stops the passage and engulfs all who dare approach; lastly that the heat is so oppressive in those countries that it would infallibly cause our death." Nothing daunted by these frightful forebodings the two explorers pushed on in a canoe until they eventually reached the mouth of the Arkansas River.

In the fall of 1679 Robert Cavelier de La Salle, the most intrepid explorer of them all, sailed up the great lakes on the Griffin, the first vessel to sail the inland waters of America. The year before

he had sent fifteen men ahead to make certain preparations and to collect a large stock of furs. He found these men on Washington Island, partaking of the hospitality of the generous Potawatomis. He sent them back to Canada on the Griffin, laden with furs and other trophies. On September 18th she departed, firing a parting shot, but was never heard of again. Tradition has it that she was engulfed in the waves immediately after leaving the island. La Salle, ignorant of this, pushed onward on his great enterprise of discovery in four canoes.

When La Salle parted with his comrades on the Griffin he proceeded to the prairie country west of Chicago and there established a frontier fort. This was placed in charge of Captain Tonti, La Salle's right hand man in all his enterprises. Seeing nothing was heard of the Griffin, La Salle, the next spring, in March, 1680, started to walk to Montreal. "He set out with four Frenchmen and one Mohegan guide; and these six men fought their way eastward through the wilderness, now floundering through melting snow, now bivouacking in clothes stiff with frost, now stopping to make a bark canoe, now leaping across streams on floating ice-cakes, like the runaway slave-girl in 'Uncle Tom's Cabin'; in such plight did they make their way across Michigan and Ontario to the little log fortress at Niagara Falls. All but La Salle had given out on reaching Lake Erie, and the five sick men were ferried across by him in a canoe. Thus because of the sustaining power of wide-ranging thoughts and a lofty purpose, the gentlemen reared in luxury and trained at college surpassed in endurance the Indians and the hunters inured to the forest."<sup>1</sup>

Shortly after La Salle left the fort in Illinois the garrison mutinied and pulled down the fort. Tonti and a few faithful followers unable to prevent this, found refuge among some friendly Illinois Indians. Before long, however, this tribe was attacked by a large force of Iroquois sent to avenge their defeat of a few years previously.<sup>2</sup> The Illinois were defeated but Tonti and some of his men escaped. They pushed northward hoping to find an asylum among their friends, the Potawatomis on the Door County peninsula. It was late in fall and the cold became very intense. It was no easy task to grub up wild onions from the ground to keep from starving. Finally they came near the bay (Green Bay) and were saved from starvation by finding some corn and frozen squashes in the fields of

<sup>1</sup> Quoted from Fiske's *Discovery of America*, II, pp. 534-535.

<sup>2</sup> See above page.

an empty Indian village. This renewed their strength and they reached the shores of the bay where they found an old canoe which they repaired and embarked in. Then, says Tonti, "there arose a northwest wind which lasted five days, with driving snow. We consumed all our food, and not knowing what to do next we resolved to go back to the deserted village and die by a warm fire in one of the wigwams. On our way we saw a smoke, but our joy was short, for, when we reached the fire we found nobody there. We spent the night by it and before morning the bay froze. We tried to break a way for our canoe through the ice, but could not; and therefore we determined to stay there another night, and make moccasins in order to reach the village. We made some. \* \* \* I was angry at Etienne Renault for not finishing his, but he excused himself on account of illness, because he had great oppression of the stomach, caused by eating a piece of Indian shield of rawhide, which he could not digest. His delay proved our salvation, for the next day, December 4th, as I was urging him to finish the moccasins, and he was still excusing himself on account of his malady, a party of Kiskanon Ottawas, who were on their way to the Potawatomis, saw the smoke of our fire and came to see us. We gave them such a welcome as was never seen before. They took us into their canoes and carried us to an Indian village only two leagues off. There we found five Frenchmen who received us kindly and all the Indians seemed to take pleasure in sending us food." They spent the winter with the Potawatomis and next spring met La Salle at Mackinac.

One of La Salle's associates was a Recollet friar by the name of Louis Hennepin. He was commissioned to explore the Illinois River. Arriving at its mouth he was taken captive by the Sioux. They were about to kill him but finding his pocket compass, which was considered wonderful "medicine" he was adopted into the tribe and carried hundreds of miles up into the Minnesota wilderness, where he had many strange experiences. Eventually he was liberated and made his way east again. Concerning his return he writes: "About four hundred leagues sail from our leaving the country of the Issati and Nadonessious (Sioux), we arrived safely at the extremity of the Bay of Puants (Green Bay), where we found Frenchmen trading with the Indians contrary to orders. They had some little wine in a pewter flagon, which enabled me to say mass. I had then only a chalice and altar stone, but Providence supplied me with sacerdotal vestments, for some Illinois, flying from the tyranny of the Iroquois, who had destroyed a part of their nation,

took the vestments of the chapel of Father Zenobius Membre, a Recollect, who was with the Illinois in their flight. These savages gave me all except the chalice. \* \* \* I had not celebrated holy mass for over nine months for want of wine. I had still some altar breads. We remained two days at rest singing the Te Deum, high mass and preaching. All our Frenchmen went to confession and to communion, to thank God for having preserved us amid so many wanderings and perils."

Among other explorers and famous fur traders who visted the Door County peninsula on their way to the interior were Daniel Graysolon Duluth, Pierre Charles Le Sueur, Baron La Hontan, Jonathan Carver, and Peter Pond.

## CHAPTER VII

### JESUIT MISSIONARIES IN DOOR COUNTY

One of the most inspiring visions of American history is the noble self-sacrifice and sublime devotion of the Jesuit missionaries in carrying the gospel of salvation to the savage cannibals of the western forests. They counted not their lives dear but forsook kindred, friends, the comforts of home and the blessings of civilization to devote their lives to the uplift of a savage and degenerate people, a thousand years behind them in manners, morals and intelligence. They followed the Indian to his hunting grounds, threading forests, swimming rivers, bivouacking with them in the somber wilderness, "in weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness." "The supposed conversion of a single Indian to the doctrines of the Catholic faith, the baptism of a single infant, seems to have been to them an ample reward for all their labor, for all their toil, and for all their suffering. From the slight memorials which have come down to us, of the labors of love of these venerable, intellectual and devoted sons of the church, it is evident no sacrifice was too hazardous, no toil unendurable, which led to the accomplishment of the great object upon the success of which they had periled their all in this life, and sought that crown of glory in the next, which they felt sanguine would be the reward of their apostolic labors here. 'I have been most amply rewarded for all my trials and sufferings,' says one of the lowly followers of Jesus, after having, for six days, lived on a certain kind of rock moss and a part of an Indian moccasin, given him by a squaw. 'I have this day rescued from the burning an infant who died from hunger, its mother's resources in the general famine, having failed her; I administered to the dying infant the sacred rites of baptism; and thank God, it is now safe from that dreadful destiny which befall those who die without the pale of our most holy church.' With us in the latter days, differing as many do, in religious opinions from this school of ecclesiastics, it is almost impossible to do them justice."

Too often, too, "the pioneers in this great and benevolent enter-



prise were like the first discoverer of fire, morally certain of bringing wrath on their own heads, and of being condemned to have their vitals gnawed by the flame of the funeral pyre, that surrounded them in the solitude of the desert, with no eye to pity, no arm to save, and supported alone by that enthusiasm, courage, self-devotion, and patience under their sufferings, which so eminently characterized these good and holy men. Death for them had no sting, the grave no victory. Kissing the symbol of their faith—that sign which they well knew must sooner or later conquer even the Red Man of the forest—they literally gave their ‘dust to dust, and ashes to ashes’; put off mortality to put on immortality; and with the *Te Deum* laudamus issuing from their parched lips they laid down their lives in the wilderness—their requiem the crackling of fagots, their funeral anthem the war-whoop of the Indian.”<sup>1</sup>

Among these intrepid missionaries one of the most capable and successful as well as one of the earliest was Father Claude Allouez. Only one missionary had preceded him, the pathetic figure of Father Rene Menard who in 1660 made an unsuccessful attempt to establish a mission on the shores of Lake Superior. He perished a year afterward in some unknown spot of the Wisconsin forest, but whether by privations or perfidy is not known. Father Allouez was his successor and succeeded in establishing a mission on Chequamegon Bay, near the present City of Bayfield. A large concourse of Indians was gathered there one fall, among them being 300 Potawatomes from the islands at the mouth of Green Bay. These Potawatomes begged him to return with them; not so much because they wished to hear the gospel but because they desired his help in dealing with certain grasping fur traders who were among them.

Allouez accepted their invitation and in 1669 made his journey to the present Door County. Here he found the Potawatomes scattered all the way down the peninsula while mingled with them were villages of Sauks and Outagamis (Foxes). He found eight French fur traders among them who had already begun to exert a corrupting influence on the Indians. He describes the Potawatomes as being the most docile and generous of all the Indians he has met. “Their wives and daughters are more modest than those of other nations. They observe among themselves a certain sort of civility, and also show it toward strangers—which is rare among barbarians. Once

<sup>1</sup> Quoted from Judge John Law’s brilliant address delivered before the Young Men’s Catholic Literary Institute, Cincinnati, Jan. 31, 1855, and reprinted in *W. H. S., Col., III*, pp. 89-111.

when I went to see one of their elders, his eyes fell upon my shoes, which were made after the French fashion; and curiosity moved him to ask leave to take them, in order to examine them easily. Upon returning them to me, he would not permit me to put them on myself, but obliged me to allow him to perform that service—even insisting on fastening the thongs, and showing the same marks of respect that servants do to their masters upon rendering them this service. Kneeling at my feet, he said to me, 'It is this way that we treat those whom we honor.'"<sup>2</sup>

Allouez was so hopeful of his work among the Indians of the peninsula that he established a mission among them. This was the Mission of St. Francis Xavier, the first permanent mission west of the Great Lakes. On his map made in 1670<sup>3</sup> he shows the mission to have been on the east shore of Green Bay. As he states that it was about a day's journey down the bay from the mouth of the Fox River it must have been in the vicinity of Red River near the Door County line. This mission was moved to the site of the present city of DePere a year later (1671) where a substantial chapel was built.

This mission proved so fruitful that Father Louis Andre was sent to assist Father Allouez in his work, the latter laboring with the tribes around Lake Winnebago while Father Andre spent his time with the Indians dwelling between DePere and Washington Island. Here the two missionaries worked for years faithfully and were rejoiced to see hundreds of savages turn from their sun worship and evil practices to the Christian faith. In the meantime, however, large numbers of French fur traders invaded the region and established settlements at different points on the peninsula and at the mouth of Fox River (Green Bay). These traders almost invariably sought to corrupt the Indians with strong drink and much disorder and bloodshed followed. The missionaries were often hard put to quell threatened uprisings against the traders.

In the fall of 1676 Father Allouez set out to visit the Illinois Indians in the present State of Illinois. This journey is of great interest to Door County readers because it caused the father to spend another season within the borders of our county. He started out in a canoe in the last days of October, but the season must have been unusually severe as the bay froze over before he had gone very far. The following is his own account of the journey:

"After these trips, the weather being favorable for setting out—

<sup>2</sup> Jesuit Relations, LI, pp. 27-29.

<sup>3</sup> Reproduced in W. H. S. Col., XVI, facing page 80.

it was toward the close of the month of October, 1676—I embarked in a canoe with two men, to attempt to go to winter with the Illinois. But I did not go far, for the winter had set in so early that year that, the ice overtaking us, we were compelled to go into camp, and wait until the ice was strong enough to bear us. It was not until the month of February that we began our voyage—a very unusual mode of navigation, for, instead of putting the canoe into the water, we placed it upon the ice, over which the wind, which was in our favor, and a sail made it go as on water. When the wind failed us, in place of paddles we used ropes to draw it along, as horses draw carriages. Passing near the nation of the Potawatomes, I learned that a young man had recently been killed by bears. I had, in times past, baptized him at the Point of St. Esprit<sup>4</sup> and his parents were of my acquaintance, which constrained me to go a little out of my way, that I might console them. They told me that bears, having taken on fat during autumn, retain all winter and even increase, their bulk, although they eat nothing, as naturalists have remarked. They sleep in the hollows of trees—especially the females, to bring forth in them their young—or else they sleep on the branches of fir trees, which they break off for the purpose of making a bed of them upon the snow. This they do not leave all winter, unless hunters discover them by means of their dogs, which they train to this sport. This young man, having described one of them on these pine branches, discharged at it all the arrows in his quiver; but the bear, feeling itself struck, although not by a deadly blow, rose up and sprang upon him, tore off his scalp, and disemboweled him, mangling and dismembering the entire body. I found his mother in great distress. We said together the prayers for the departed; and although my presence had renewed her grief, she wiped away her tears and consoled herself by saying to me: ‘It is Paulin who is dead; it is the good Paulin whom thou camest always to call to prayers.’

“Afterward, by way of avenging, they said, this death, the relatives and friends of the deceased went to make war on the bears while they were still in good condition—that is to say, in winter; for in the summer they are thin, and so famished that they eat even toads and snakes. The war was so successful that, in a short time, they killed over 500, of which they gave us a share, telling us that God delivered the bears into their hands as satisfaction for the death of that young man who had been so cruelly treated by one of their nation.

“At twelve leagues from the village of the Potawatomes, we

<sup>4</sup> On Chequamegon Bay, Near Bayfield, Wis.

entered a very deep bay, from which we carried our canoe through the weeds as far as the Great Lake of Illinois; this portage extends about a league and a half."<sup>3</sup>

It appears from the above that Allouez did not return to his mission at DePere after he started on his journey. He says, "We were overtaken by the ice and compelled to go into camp and wait until the ice was strong enough to bear us." From this it seems that while they were camping on the journey the ice closed up around them. This indicates that they were camping in some sheltered spot where the ice formed early, which leads us to believe he had reached Sturgeon Bay which usually freezes up early. Had it occurred much nearer to the mission he would in all probability have returned and stayed in greater comfort. On Sturgeon Bay are several village sites. It is therefore probable that Father Allouez camped here instructing the Indians in Christianity.

In view of the father's indefatigable zeal it is therefore not improbable to assume that here within sound of the present imposing Church of St. Joseph was heard the Pater Noster and the Ave Maria, first chanted by this sturdy pioneer of the cross 240 years ago.

The village "twelve leagues" away where the great bear hunt took place was probably at Shanty Bay in Peninsula Park. The remains of a village have been unearthed here. Another village was at Fish Creek, but as this village is less than twenty miles from the mouth of Sturgeon Bay it seems rather too close for Allouez' estimated distance of twelve leagues (about thirty miles). It may also have been on the west shore, near the present sites of Oconto or Pensaukee, but as it was a village of Potawatomes it is more probable that it was in Northern Door County. He probably remained here during the remainder of the winter as five hundred bears were killed while he stopped here.

Father Allouez is the first man known to have indulged in ice boating on Green Bay.

<sup>3</sup> Jesuit Relations, LX, page 151. Reference is here made to the Sturgeon Bay portage.

## CHAPTER VIII

### INDIAN OUTBREAKS

After Allouez left the Mission of St. Xavier at DePere we have a number of Jesuit fathers who spent more or less time in this region. Among these were Louis Andre, Anthony Silvy, Andre Bonneault, Claude Dablon, Charles Abanel, Jacques Marquette, John Enjalran and Jean B. Chardon. These, with their assistants, all came up Green Bay past the palisaded heights of Door County. They camped on its shores; they fished in its waters; they hunted in the interior for their sustenance; they admired its towering cliffs and beautiful bays; they followed the Indians from village to village preaching the gospel of peace, good works and salvation to them. Some of them were recalled to other fields, while others again never returned but left their lives in the forest as martyrs to their faith. For a while the fathers had much success and hundreds of Indians were baptized each year. (When Father Marquette visited the mission in 1673 he reports that more than two thousand Indians had been baptized). They used to gather at the DePere Chapel and venerate it as if it were an idol—offering tobacco to it<sup>1</sup> and talking to it as if it were a living thing. Before long, however, this peaceful worship ceased. This was due to the debasing influence of the fur traders. These men carried brandy with them as the most potent means to make a profitable bargain with the Indians. To obtain brandy the Indians were willing to agree to anything. Debased by drinking the Indians quickly became insolent and brutish. About 1680 they set fire to the DePere Chapel. It was re-erected and again destroyed. Once in a drunken brawl an attack was made on the Jesuits and several members of the mission were killed. For a time the Indians were quiet, expecting swift vengeance from the governor in Quebec. The Jesuits, however, exemplifying the doctrine of forgiveness, demanded no punishment and no vengeance came. The Indians misunderstood this tolerance, despised the French for weaklings, and matters grew worse. The Jesuits were subjected to all sorts of indignities. Once

<sup>1</sup> Among many Indian tribes it was customary to offer tobacco to their deities. See *Jesuit Relations*, X, pp. 324-325.

a great Outagami chief brought all his old and dull axes to the mission and compelled the reverend father to temper and sharpen them while the chief stood over him with a drawn sword. When the work was done instead of showing gratitude the chief gave the father such a beating that he was obliged to keep to his bed for many days.

About this time a great plague broke out among the Indians around the bay which greatly decimated their numbers. The Indian sorcerers, after many incantations, claimed that this plague was brought on by the "black gowns" (Jesuits) in revenge for their injuries, and urged that they, with all other French, be exterminated. For a while it looked as if a general massacre would follow. Perrot alone prevented this. He was the agent of the French Government and had charge of all the secular affairs of the French in the West. He had such commanding ways about him that the Indians seemed to respect him more than an army. Whole tribes fled at the news of his coming. Several times he unexpectedly entered hostile Indian villages about to go to war and rebuked them like dogs. He would lay his breast bare before them and defy them to kill him. His wonderful bravery, ingenious stratagems and magnetic oratory saved the French on more than one occasion. In these hostilities, however, his old friends the Potawatomes on the Door County Peninsula were always faithful to the French.<sup>2</sup>

The evil influence of the fur traders upon the Indians finally became so notorious that the venerable Father Carhul, who spent sixty years in laboring with the Indians, wrote a scathing denunciation of the traffic to the French governor. He denounces "the two infamous sorts of commerce which have brought the missions to the brink of destruction: \* \* \* the commerce in brandy and the commerce of the savage women with the French. Both are carried on in equally public manner, without our being able to remedy the evil because we are not supported by the commandants. \* \* \* All the villages of our savages are now only taverns, as regards drunkenness and Sodoms, as regards immorality—from which we must withdraw, and which we must abandon to the just anger and vengeance of God"<sup>3</sup> Perhaps in response to this protest the French Government about the year 1700 for a time greatly curtailed the fur trade.

The Indians who at this time (the beginning of the Eighteenth Century) were causing the most trouble were the Outagamis. They

<sup>2</sup> Quoted in W. H. S. Col., XVI, pp. 214-215.

<sup>3</sup> Nicholas Perrot labored for forty years among the western Indians in various capacities. Probably no man knew them as well as he. He was born in 1644 and died about 1720.

had a few years previously occupied the east shore of the Door County Peninsula but were driven from there by Iroquois attacks as told in Chapter IV. They later settled on the headwaters of the Fox and Wolf Rivers in the present Winnebago and Waupaca counties. Here they quickly waxed very mighty and formidable and soon became a menace not only to the fur traders but to the very French power in the West. In order to prevent an alliance among these related tribes which might prove disastrous to French dominion, Captain Cadillac, the commandant of the post at Mackinac, formed the project of getting a number of these tribes to locate in Southern Michigan where they, supported by the French, could form a buffer nation against possible hostile excursions of the Outagamis. The Potawatomies, always docile to the wishes of the French, accepted his invitation and with the Sauks formed a settlement at Detroit and another at St. Joseph River. Several other tribes followed. There seems to have remained only a small mixed village of Potawatomies and Ottawas in Door County, located on Detroit Island.

Shortly after these tribes had settled in Southern Michigan a large army of Outagamis and their allies, the Mascoutens, appeared before the French fort at Detroit, one day in the year 1710, and besieged it. Thanks to the nearness of his Indian allies, the Potawatomies, Ottawas and others, the commandant, Captain Duboisson, was able to repel them. In the pursuit that followed no less than a thousand Outagamis were killed. The survivors returned to their Wisconsin woods and were soon on the warpath again. Several large military expeditions were sent out from Montreal to subjugate them. At Mackinac these forces were augmented by hundreds of Indian allies, which all proceeded up Green Bay to wage war with the terrible Outagamis. For twenty years this war continued with varying success until the Outagamis were finally exterminated.

Meanwhile the missions were abandoned and destroyed, and the fur trade languished. The Indians turned again to their idolatrous practices and their last stage was worse than the first.

## CHAPTER IX

### EARLY VISITORS TO DOOR COUNTY

From time to time, long before the first pioneers raised their cabins in Door County, this peninsula was visited by many distinguished travelers who sailed up past its shores and were impressed by its distinctive beauty. Many of them have preserved their impressions of this peninsula in their writings which cast a romantic light on this section when it was an unbroken forest from shore to shore. Believing that any mention of Door County, made one hundred or two hundred years ago, is of interest to those who have now made it their home, a few of these early accounts are given below:

Pierre Francois Xavier de Charlevoix, a noted Jesuit writer, was sent to America in 1720, commissioned by the French Government to seek a route to the Western Sea. He wrote several historical works about America. The following are some of his remarks about the Door County:

"There is on the west side of this lake (Lake Michigan) a large bay, which extends twenty-eight leagues to the south, and is called *Bay des Puants*, or simply *la Baye*. Its entrance is very wide and strewn with islands, some of which are as much as fifteen or twenty leagues in circumference. They were formerly occupied by the Ponteonatomies (Potawatomes) whose name they bear, except some of them which lie on the right hand, in which there are still some savages called the Noquets. The Ponteonatomies occupy at the present time one of the smallest of their islands; and they have besides two other villages, one on the River St. Joseph and the other at Detroit."

\* \* \* \* \*

"We embarked in the afternoon of the second of July (1721, from Machinac); for thirty leagues we coasted along a strip of land which separates Lake Michigan from Lake Superior. There are several places where it is only a few leagues wide, and it is hardly possible to find a more wretched looking country; but it ends at a pretty river named *la Manistie* (Manistique), which abounds in fish, especially in Sturgeon. A little farther, bending our course to the southwest,



we enter a large gulf, the entrance to which is bordered by islands, which is called the Gulf, or Bay, of the Noquets. \* \* \*

"The Bay of Noquets is separated from the Great Bay (Green Bay) only by the islands of the Pontenatomies—which, as I have already remarked, are the old-time abode of those savages. Most of these islands are heavily wooded; but the only one which is still inhabited is neither the largest nor the finest; there remains on it only a comparatively small village, where we were compelled, although unwillingly, to pass the night; but we could never refuse this as the people were so urgent. There is not, moreover, a tribe in Canada who have been more sincerely attached to the French than they always have been.

"On the 6th we were held back nearly all day by contrary winds; but at evening it again grew calm, and we embarked a little after sunset, by most beautiful moonlight; we then proceeded on our journey during twenty-four consecutive hours, making only a short halt to say mass and to eat dinner. The sun was so hot, and the water of the bay so warm, that the pitch of our canoe melted in several places. To crown our misfortunes, the place where we halted for our encampment proved to be so infested with mosquitoes and gnats that it was impossible for us to close our eyes, although we had not slept for two days; and as the weather was fine, and the moon gave us light, we resumed our journey as early as three o'clock in the morning."

"After having voyaged five or six leagues,<sup>1</sup> we found ourselves abreast of a small island, which is not far from the west shore of the bay, and which concealed from us the entrance to a river (Menominee River) on which is the village of Malhomines (Menominees), which is not very populous. That is a pity, for they are fine looking men, and among the most shapely in Canada. They are even taller than the Potawatomes. I have been assured that they have the same origin, and almost the same language, as the Noquets and the Sauteurs (Chippewas); but it is also added that they have, besides, a private language, which they communicate to no one.

"At a little distance beyond the island (Green Island) which I have just mentioned, the aspect of the country is all at once changed; and from being almost a wilderness, as it is up to that point, it becomes the most charming region in the world. It is even more agreeable to the sight than is the Detroit Country; but although it is every-

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<sup>1</sup> "Five or six leagues" is about eighteen miles. Their camp was probably on Eagle Island which on account of its sheltered harbor was a favorite camping place for canoe voyagers.

where covered with the finest trees, it is much more sandy and less fertile. The Otchagras (Winnebagos), who are commonly called Puans, formerly lived on the shores of the bay, in a most delightful location; but they were there attacked by the Illinois, who slew great numbers of them."<sup>2</sup>

Samuel A. Storrow, judge advocate of the U. S. Army in 1817, made a tour by boat through the interior of Wisconsin. The following relates some of his observations in Door County:

"While upon this island (Washington Island) we were met by a small party of Indians, one of whom our interpreter recognized to be Cecoton, or The Spring Deer, an Ottawa warrior of fierce and turbulent character. He pointed to an island which he said was the haunt of his tribe and family, whither we proceeded. It was the most beautiful of the group, and known to the voyageurs by the name of the Isle de Petit Detroit (Detroit Island), from its facing a small strait formed by itself and another island which nearly encircles it. The grounds when we first landed bore marks of recent cultivation, but were uninhabited.

"Following a winding path, we reached a country, decorated after the rude manner of the nations with flags and paint; each grave being sheltered by a mound of bark, containing an aperture for the deceased to breathe through, and in front the remnants of food and embers. The pathways led us through many beautiful but deserted fields, where the industry of the Indians had mellowed the wilderness of their island, and formed a scene apparently too tranquil for a turbulent spirit like that of Cecoton. Finding no one abroad, we discharged our muskets to attract some of the islanders; the sound was answered by the barking of a dog, and soon afterward we encountered a man, armed, and apparently acting as sentinel. He told the interpreter that the people were on the skirt of the forest, at a distance, where they cultivated the fields. We followed him, and were led into a large and wretchedly tilled cornfield, in the midst of which were a number of cabins. Among the many interesting objects which this strange community presented, was an old chief of not less than ninety years of age, who had been a warrior from his youth. He was naked, like those about him, and by no means deficient in strength and agility.

"Leaving this beautiful island we reached, on the 16th, the southerly cape of Green Bay, Port des Morts, so called from the destruction at this place of a number of the Potawatomes. The escape itself

<sup>2</sup> From Charlevoix' "Journal Historique," passages of which are reprinted in W. H. S. Col., XVI, pp. 408-418.

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is high and perpendicular. We encamped under the precipice on a small margin, the water washing the foot of our tent. On the morning of the 17th, we commenced our course westwardly along the shore, stopping at several islands, one of which contained a small miniature harbor (Eagle Island) and the marks of Indian cultivation. The cabins were deserted, but on exploring the island we found the dead body of a man extended on a scaffold, after the manner of the Chippewas. Implements of the chase were at his side, and at the foot of the scaffold, the remnants of a deer.

"Throughout the 17th and 18th we continued our course and reached, on the night of the latter day, Cape Winnebago, having passed the Baie des Eturgeons, the Vermillion Islands and River Rouge (Red River). From the bottom of the Baie des Eturgeons there is a portage of but two miles to Lake Michigan."<sup>3</sup>

French dominion of Canada and the West came to an end in 1760, when the post at Mackinac was given up to the British. Lieutenant Garrell of the British Army was sent to the mouth of Fox River (present City of Green Bay) the next year with a body of troops to take charge of the old fort that stood there. He remained there only three years, when the fort was abandoned and the British made no further attempt to occupy the country. For the next half century Wisconsin relapsed into its ancient Indian control, with no missionaries at any point to hold aloft the torch of civilization and with only an occasional fur trader who adapted his ways to Indian wishes. England, however, claimed nominal dominion of the region, which did not terminate with the Revolutionary war, but continued through the War of 1812. It was finally surrendered in July, 1815.

One year later, in July, 1816, a considerable body of American troops was sent from Mackinac to take possession of the ancient post at Green Bay. These troops consisted of 500 riflemen under command of Colonel Miller. Other officers among them were Colonel Chambers, and Colonel Bowyer. This expedition left Mackinac in four schooners, known as the Washington, the Mink, the Amelia and the Wayne. These were the first large sailing vessels on Lake Michigan since the days of La Salle's Griffin. The Washington was the largest (100 tons) and was the flagship of the squadron.

In crossing Lake Michigan the flotilla became separated and the Washington put in at Washington Harbor to wait for them. Here they lay for four days while officers, troops and passengers rambled all over the island admiring its beauties and picking up Indian relics.

<sup>3</sup> From Storrow's "Northwest in 1817," reprinted in W. H. S. Col., VI, pp. 165-166.

Believing that their vessel was the first to have touched at the island, it was named Washington Island. The grand cliff on the northwest point of the island was named Bowyers Bluff in honor of Colonel Bowyer, the first American Indian agent at Green Bay. Meanwhile one of the other vessels had touched at Chambers Island which was so named by the troops in honor of Colonel Chambers.

The following is a very pretty account of a journey along the shore of Green Bay in 1821, written by Mrs. Henry Baird and printed in "Wisconsin Historical Collections," Vol XIV, pages 55-62; "Early Days on Mackinac Island," pages 55-62:

"Our route lay along the eastern coast of Green Bay and the northern shore of Lake Michigan. My husband was going to the island to attend court, and I to visit my relatives. Judge Doty had gone there by schooner, some time before. We took passage on one of a fleet of six boats laden with furs, belonging to the American Fur Company, and in charge of my brother-in-law, Joseph Rolette, of Prairie du Chien. Having attended a wedding ceremony in the afternoon, it was so late when we reached the boats, in waiting by the river side, that at first it seemed hardly worth while to start that day. Yet the men were all in their places, which was always the experience in the days when there was no whistle or bell to call them to duty, and it was prudent to start when they were secured; otherwise, the grog shops might entice them away.

"In each of the boats there were seven men, six to row and a steersman, all being Frenchmen. There was, in addition, in each boat, a clerk of the American Fur Company, to act as commander, or bourgeois. The furnishing of these boats, each thirty feet long, was quite complete. The cargo being furs, a snug fitting tarpaulin was fastened down and over the sides, to protect the pelts from the rain. This cargo was placed in the center of the boat. A most important feature of the cargo was the mess basket, one of the great comforts of the past days, and a perfect affair of its kind. It was well filled with everything that could be procured to satisfy both hunger and thirst, such as boiled ham, tongue, roast chickens, bread, butter, hard or sea biscuits, crackers, cheese (when that luxury could be procured), tea, coffee, and chocolate, pickles, etc., and an abundance of eggs. Then there were wines, cordials, and brandy. All this the mess baskets held; yet in addition, we depended upon securing fresh game and fish on the way. Rolette was a generous provider, sending to St. Louis for all that this part of the world could not supply. The mess basket on this occasion seemed to have an extra supply of eggs. It seemed

strange that such faithful workers as the men were should have been fed so poorly. They had nothing but salt pork, lyed corn, and bread or biscuit. This was the general food of workmen in the fur trade. It was the custom, when a man wished to enter the employ of any one, to put the manner of living in the indenture.<sup>4</sup> Our boat carried two tents, and had a cot bed and camp stool for my use.

"The party in our boat consisted of Rolette (the head man), John Kinzie, my husband and myself. One of the other boats was in charge of Edward Ploudre, another in charge of Jean Baptist Mairand; Monsieur Eustubise was in charge of the fourth boat. I have forgotten the names of the bourgeois of the two remaining craft.

"Starting so late in the day, we were only enabled to get as far as the Red Banks, before it was time to stop and camp for the night. As I stepped from the boat, I saw that my tent was almost ready for me, so quickly did these men arrange matters for the encampment.

"Next morning dawned most gloriously, and we started off in our boats, after breakfast, in fine spirits, cheered and enlivened by the merry songs of the boatmen, who always start with a song. The day was charming, there was no wind, and the men rowed as if it were a pleasure. This was indeed a delightful way to travel; keeping always within easy reach of shore, in case of a sudden squall or violent wind.

"The camping hour is always hailed with gladness by the men, strange as it may seem, as it came at the close of a hard day's work. It seemed always to be another pleasure of the voyage, and was an agreeable change to passengers as well as men. The men would pitch the tent with rapidity, in front of it quickly kindle a fire, and then immediately prepare the meal, which was greatly enjoyed. Then, all being refreshed, came the time for sports, merriment, and fun of all kinds.

"As we rowed away from the Red Banks on that most charming June morning, many were the amusements that followed each other. The boats would sometimes come near enough to allow an interchange of conversation, jest, and play. This began that morning, by the throwing of hard tack at each other. This, however, did not last long, the prospect of needing the biscuits later serving to save them. Our boat had at first shared in the contest, but on my account they soon desisted. Shortly after the war of the biscuits ceased, we began to

<sup>4</sup> See the numerous examples of such contracts, among the MSS. of this society; some of them are cited in Turner's valuable monograph, "The Character and Influence of the Fur Trade in Wisconsin," Proc. Wis. Hist. Soc., 1889.—Ed.

see eggs flying in the air, and a very pretty sight they made too. The men entered fully into the fun, although the oarsmen did not dare slack their oars. They gave vent, however, to their enjoyment by a *cri de joie*, fairly quivering with enjoyment. It was about as animated a contest as any these men had ever witnessed or expected to. Not to spoil the fun, I crawled under the tarpaulin, where I was comparatively safe, although an occasional egg would strike me on the head. Rolette—an irritable old man—tried his best to stop the battle, but the fun was too fierce to be readily given up, and on a pretense of not hearing their commander's order they kept on with the fight.

"At the second 'pipe,' or rest, we left the boat for a ramble, as a beautiful beach made walking a delight. Although not dinner time, Rolette ordered an early meal, so that we might take another walk. He directed the men, after their meal, to start on with the boat, telling them where to encamp. Pointing to a bit of land projected into the bay, which did not seem very far away, he said, 'You may encamp just past that point. We will walk; be sure and have supper ready.' Barrette, Rolette's serving man, remained with us. Rolette never went unattended, as he was a very helpless person.

"We sat awhile when we had dined, then started off on our walk. The fleet of boats presented a handsome appearance, disappearing and reappearing with the inequalities of the shore. We had not walked far when we came to a bluff which extended into the bay, and which was perfectly perpendicular. There was no path around it, none over it, and the water at its base was deep. What was I to do? Good Barrette immediately said he could carry me; and he did so. How I pitied him. The distance around the bluff was several yards. When he had doubled the promontory and got upon dry land, we stopped to rest. Starting off again we soon came to a small stream, narrow but deep. It had not been observed by the men in the boats, owing to the rushes. Now, what was to be done? The crew were out of sight, hidden by the point of land at first mentioned, and consequently were out of hearing. But the same faithful servant again undertook the task of carrying me, although the water was now quite deep—too deep for my husband to be of any assistance to me, as he was a short man. Mr. Kinzie being taller, walked beside us and held my feet out of the water. The gentlemen were up to the armpits in the stream, which fortunately was narrow.

"We soon after met some of the other gentlemen of our party coming to meet us, and were not long in reaching encampment, which

looked very inviting. The tents were pitched, my cot all ready for a good rest, a bright fire at a little distance, and supper ready.

"But in the mean time a storm was brewing, another egg storm! As we arrived at the camp, we all noticed the strange appearance which Edward Ploudre presented. He had on white duck pantaloons and a frock coat, and had both pockets filled with eggs, which he had provided for a second battle and fancied his coat would conceal. But the keen eyes of both Mr. Kinzie and Mr. Baird were too much for him, as was their fleetness, for they immediately set in pursuit of him, and when they caught him slapped his pockets until the eggs were broken and the contents ran in a stream down his pantaloons and white stockings, and into his low shoes. The men laughed until exhausted. Then there was another call for more eggs, and another fight ensued, which only ceased for want of ammunition. Never did any one ever enter with greater zest into any sport than did the gentlemen on this occasion. However, at last quiet was restored and we found ourselves with good appetites for supper, and soon after retired to refreshing sleep. The next morning the field of battle presented a strange appearance, strewn as it was with egg shells, and many were the regrets expressed that the ammunition was exhausted.

"Before leaving the shore, speeches befitting the occasion were made by most of the gentlemen, and the place was formally christened 'Egg Harbor,' the name it has ever since borne.

"Occasionally, as we coasted along the east shore of Green Bay, we would, when it presented an inviting appearance, take other walks along the bank. The men always took pains to secure a handsome spot for the 'pipe,' or rest. The tent was scarcely ever pitched for dinner except in wet weather.

"As I do not remember distances from point to point, I will not attempt to give each day's travel. The names of some of the islands have been changed since our trip in 1825; and many more than in that day had no names, have since been christened. Then we knew by names, only Washington Island, the Beavers—Big and Little, Chambers, Manitou, Fox, Potawatomie or Rock Island, formerly known as l'Ile de Pou, or Louse Island. Many were the beautiful spots we passed. Never were we obliged to dine or encamp on the east shore at any spot not attractive.

"One night we encamped at a place called Petit Detroit, which is not far from Death's Door. It is a small island, formed like a half moon, the inner portion being a most beautiful harbor, with a high bank; and beyond this rise higher hills. The whole island was

then a perfect garden of wild roses. Never have I at one time seen so many flowers of any kind, as I then saw. The charms of the place so attracted us that we made an early landing. The men had to clear a spot to pitch the tent, and in finishing their work they very thoughtfully decorated my tent with roses.

"Here again, and indeed it was so each evening, the young men began to frolic. There were no more eggs for that kind of warfare, yet there seemed to be many articles to do battle with. As soon as supper was over, all the gentlemen of the party, except Rolette, went off for a walk over the hills. They were in the finest of spirits and so were the crew—the whole island seemed to respond to their glee. The boatmen, keeping to themselves, went off to the other side of the island. Soon we heard their laughter, and well we knew there was fun somewhere. In a little while we saw the gentlemen run towards the encampment and, laughing, go to each other's tents and, catching up anything they could lay their hands on, into the lake they tossed it. Each possessed a small feather bed, that with the bedding was rolled up in an Indian mat. Soon we saw these beds sailing off, and these were followed by coats, hats, etc. Mr. Kinzie was so engaged in the 'pitched battle' that he did not see his own bed start. The others secured theirs while yet in reach. The beds usually fell in the water lengthwise, but Mr. Kinzie's went in on one end, which made it sail well. When at last he discovered his bed, outward bound, it was several yards from shore. He plunged into the water and had to swim, as the water was quite deep, before he reached it.

"The boats are never unloaded, from the time they leave port until they reach their destination. This fleet of boats was originally loaded at Prairie du Chien, and then unloaded at the portage between the Wisconsin and Fox Rivers, where the men carried first the packs of furs on their backs, then returned for the boats, and reloading them would run down to the Big Chute, now Appleton. Here the boats again had to be unloaded, and the furs portaged around by the men. The boats, however, made the journey down the swift water, which was called 'jumping the rapids,' and was an interesting sight if one had nerve enough to look on. The unloading was repeated at Grand Kaukauna; but at Rapides Croche and at Rapides des Peres, now De Pere, the loads would be carried through, all of the men walking in the water to guide the boats and their valuable loads. Our boats, it will be seen, were loaded for the last time at Kaukauna, not to be unloaded until they reached Mackinac.

"We will return now to our last camping place at that charming



island and harbor. After the gentlemen had played to their hearts' content, they retired to their moist beds. One would have thought they might all have taken cold, but not one word of complaint did I hear from any of them.

"We now traveled slowly, waiting for a day which would show signs of being fine throughout, that we might make in safety 'La Grande Traverse'—to cross the lake from the east shore to the west, or north. The crossing started from Rock Island. There were some scattered islands on the route, where shelter was sought in case of storm or high wind. On the day we attempted the crossing, there was a slight east wind, strong enough to warrant the sails being hoisted. The wind at last dying away they were taken down, and it was with difficulty we reached our destined port. These boats carry but one sail, a square one. The mast is attached to the side of the boat—and when wanted is hoisted to its place and the sail put up. When in the middle of the lake, a strange sight it was to see the boats arranged in a regular line, near each other, while the men took a rest. (The men never smoked except when ashore). The boats floated gently on, carried by the current, and always guided by the steersman. The motion was a delightful one. We made a successful crossing, and the men were rewarded by a supper from our mess baskets, and a little extra grog. I have forgotten to mention that the crew each morning and evening received a gill of whiskey.

"On our arrival at the other shore, we were no longer able to secure as fine camping grounds as those of the preceding days. As the gentlemen no longer could find a good play ground, they devoted themselves to their books."

In the chapter on the Rise and Fall of Rowleys Bay is recorded an interesting experience of the early surveyors who surveyed Door County in 1834.

## CHAPTER X

### DOOR COUNTY'S FIRST SETTLER

In 1818 Solomon Juneau settled at the mouth of the Milwaukee River and opened a little trading post for the Indians. For seventeen years he was not only the only settler at what later became Milwaukee but he was also the only one on the entire Lake Michigan shore. From Chicago to Death's Door and south to Green Bay the shore lay dark and mysterious, uninhabited by a single fisherman, farmer or fur trader. Back from the shore the forest stretched in unbroken majesty, haunted only by the wild beasts and savage red men of the wilderness—a country as little known then as some obscure spot of Africa is now.

The nearest point where Solomon Juneau could replenish his small stock of supplies was Fort Howard which was in more or less frequent communication with Mackinac Island, "the emporium of the West." As there were no roads through the woods from Juneau's cabin to Fort Howard he therefore made frequent trips by water to the fort. Many a time he laboriously pulled a row boat up past the vast sandy beaches of Wisconsin, round through Death's Door passage and down past the imposing ramparts of precipitous Door County. Towering high, its cliffs crowned by lofty forests of pine and maple, it lay there an unexplored land of mystery.

Until 1835 it lay unknown and unseen by all eyes except Solomon Juneau's and the occasional traveler from Mackinac to the wild West.

In this year—the same year that Solomon Juneau's cabin changed from a hermitage to the beginning of a village—Door County got its first permanent settler. This was Increase Claflin, a splendid representative of the hardy pioneer Yankees who had conquered New England.

As Increase Claflin was the very first settler of this splendid and populous community it is of interest to learn all we can of him personally. I have therefore been at pains to obtain all the geneological facts about him possible.

Increase Claflin was born September 19, 1795, at Windham, N. Y., the son of Increase Claflin and Sarah Stimpson.

His father, Increase Claflin, was born at Hopkinton, Mass., November 13, 1757, the son of Cornelius Claflin and Deborah How. He was a member of the Hopkinton Company of minutemen who responded to the Lexington alarm. June 1, 1776, he enlisted in the Fifth Middlesex Regiment and served with honor throughout the Revolutionary war.

His father, Cornelius Claflin, was born at Hopkinton, Mass., March 13, 1733, the son of Daniel Claflin and Rachel Pratt. He served in the French and Indian war and took part in the expedition against Crown Point in 1756. He also served throughout the Revolutionary war, being lieutenant in the same regiment in which his two sons served as privates.

His father, Daniel Claflin, was born at Wenham, Mass., February 19, 1702, the son of Daniel Claflin and Sarah Edwards.

His father, Daniel Claflin, was born at Wenham, Mass., January 23, 1674, the son of Robert Mackclathlan and Joanna Warner. The house that he built in which many generations of Claflins were born is still standing in good preservation.

His father, Robert Mackclathlan, the founder of the large and distinguished Claflin family, came to America some time before 1661. Here his name was quickly simplified into Clafland, later Claflin. He was born in Argyllshire, Scotland, where, in Cowal, were the stronghold and large possessions of the Mackclathlans for centuries. The name is of Norse origin and it is supposed that the first Mackclathlan was a Norse viking who conquered that part of Scotland about the year 1000.

Increase Claflin, the subject of this narrative, was also a soldier like his father and grandfather. Unlike his ancestors, he was of a roving disposition. After serving in the War of 1812 we find him at Cleveland, Ohio. Later he transferred himself and family across the unknown wilderness of the South and took up his home at New Orleans, where he was hospital steward in the service of the United States army. Here his daughter, Adelia, later the wife of Robert Stephenson, was born July 24, 1821. Some time before 1830 he had found his way 1,000 miles to the north and located at Kaukauna, Wis., as a fur trader, his business being to buy furs for a New York house. There were only two or three white families at that time at Kaukauna which was the only settlement of white men between De

Pere and Prairie du Chien. Mr. Claflin must at this time have had several men in his employ as the census of Brown County for 1830 gives the number of people in his household as thirteen.

There is also a tradition that he took part in the Black Hawk war of 1832 in Southwestern Wisconsin, but this report I am not able to either verify or deny.

About this time Mr. Daniel Whitney, for many years the leading business man of Northeastern Wisconsin, located in Green Bay and started many enterprises. In 1830 he platted the Village of Navarino which later became the chief business part of Green Bay. In many of Mr. Whitney's undertakings Mr. Claflin was employed by him as foreman or overseer.

The first Government land office in Wisconsin was established in Green Bay. The first tract of land sold was to Increase Claflin and Darius Darnell, July 30, 1835, being lot 1, section 8, town 22, range 20, lying just below the present Village of Wrightstown in Brown County. Mr. Claflin did not settle here, however, but had by this time turned his steps in another direction.

That highlying peninsula lying to the northeast of Green Bay with its deep, curving shores which the Indians described as their original paradise, had long attracted him. Finally in the spring of 1835 he loaded all his possessions on a Mackinaw boat and with a fair wind and fulsome hopes set sail for Little Sturgeon Bay. Here on the point of land at the mouth of the bay, on the west side, on exactly the spot now occupied by Charles Gustafson's modern home, he built the first house in Door County.

Little Sturgeon Bay was then as now a most idyllic spot, abounding in all kinds of fish and game and a favorite resort for the Indians. On the opposite side of Little Sturgeon Bay, on what is called Squaw Point, there was a village of 500 Menominees. For a time Claflin got along very well with the latter as he treated them fairly and generously. Two or three years later serious trouble broke out between them brought on by Claflin's son-in-law, Robert Stephenson.

Mr. Stephenson, originally from Pennsylvania, came to Little Sturgeon in 1836 where he was employed by Mr. Claflin in various capacities. In 1837 he married Mr. Claflin's oldest daughter, Adelia, but continued for a time to make his home with Claflins. Mr. Stephenson was an energetic, capable man but rather haughty in temperament. He despised the Indians for their slothful habits and did not think it beneath him to take advantage of the Indians when

business opportunities were open. His favorite procedure was to get the Indians drunk, whereupon he would obtain their peltries at prices ruinous to the poor redskins. This displeased Mr. Claflin greatly as he was as fair to the Indians when drunk as when sober.

One day when Mr. Claflin returned from a journey an alarming sight met his eyes. A band of redskins in war paint were scurrying around his cabin. Robert Stephenson was engaged in a hand to hand fight with several Indians and was felled to the ground with several knife stabs. Another white man in the employ of Claflin lay dead in the doorway, and a couple of Indians were just dragging out his daughter, Mrs. Stephenson. Dashing his horse into their midst, Mr. Claflin scattered the Indians who were dragging away his daughter and hurried her into his log cabin where he found the other members of his family safe but trembling with fear. Turning to the Indians he demanded the meaning of the attack.

A stalwart Indian, their chief, stepped up and spoke:

"You are our friend and we wish you no harm. You may therefore take your squaw and your little ones and go away in your boat. But we shall kill your son (pointing to Stephenson) and burn your house and let no white man stay here among us. Our young men bring their furs and our daughters their robes and blankets to your house and he (Stephenson) makes them drunk with firewater and gives them nothing of value in return. Therefore we shall kill him and give his squaw to our young men for our daughters to laugh at and spit upon. Go therefore while we remember your good deeds!"

Vainly Claflin tried to reason with them but a hubbub of excited Indian outcries broke out, accompanied by threatening glances thrown at him. Claflin then said:

"Well, seeing I have to go, let me at least treat you before I go. We have always been good friends and let us part in the same manner." The Indians grunted their approval of this.

Entering his storehouse, Claflin returned with a keg and a tin cup. He carried it into their midst and poured a little of the contents into the cup. To their amazement the Indians saw not whiskey but gunpowder trickle into the cup. Then he took his flint and fire steel, ignited a piece of tinder and threw it into the cup. There was a flash and a thunderous crash and the cup was gone!

Trembling with apprehension the chief said, "What is my white brother going to do with the keg of powder?"

"Do," returned Claflin, "I am going to blow you all to hell!"

Either you smoke the pipe of peace or not a man leaves this spot! I have always treated you Indians fairly and now you turn upon me like wolves to kill my children and drive me from my home. If my son Robert has misused you, you have punished him enough. Now let us be quits and smoke the pipe of peace."

Filled with mixed feelings of admiration and apprehension at Claflin's audacity, the Indians readily assented. Claflin filled his pipe and lit it whereupon it was passed from Indian to Indian with all proper solemnity. Two gigantic elms near the shore at the mouth of Little Sturgeon Bay now mark the spot where this eventful meeting took place.

The Indians made no further trouble to Claflin and his household. The strained relations between Claflin and Stephenson caused chiefly by their different view of dealing with the Indians increased however. Finally, like Abraham of old, Claflin decided to leave his son-in-law in possession of the favored land and with his family went elsewhere to seek a home. In 1844 he went thirty miles north and settled on a promontory one-half mile north of the present site of Fish Creek. This promontory, now embraced in the State Park, is still known as Claflin's Point. He died March 27, 1868, and he and several members of his family are buried in a private cemetery on the point.

Increase Claflin was a splendid type of a pioneer, a most auspicious forerunner of Door County's men. He was sturdy, reliable, fearless, intelligent, loyal and self sacrificing. In the rare quality of his ancestors as well as in his own noble manhood, Door County could ask for no truer type of American virtue. There is a familiar painting of fine conception typifying "the Spirit of 'Seventy-Six." Three figures of martial bearing are seen advancing at the head of a body of troops. In the middle is the grandfather, white locks flowing in the wind, blowing on a flute. On one side is his son, a drummer in the prime of life. On the other side is the grandson, not yet full grown but catching inspiration from his elders and keenly beating his drum. Advancing irresistibly onward they make a soul-stirring picture.<sup>1</sup>

In the history of the Claflin family there are events that are just as soul-stirring as this famous painting. As a parallel we see Increase Claflin's grandfather, the Revolutionary lieutenant, charging the breastworks of Crown Point closely followed by his two sons. By

<sup>1</sup> The painting referred to called The Spirit of 'Seventy-six is by Archibald M. Willard, born in Bedford, Ohio, in 1836. The picture is now in Abbott Hall, Marblehead, Mass.

such was America freed! And as a climax we see old Increase Claflin, the Door County pioneer, now old and weary of days sitting in his Fish Creek cabin, sending his three sons to war for the preservation of his country. In the summer of 1862 when the President sent out his call for troops to save the Union, Increase Claflin sent his three sons as volunteers, saying, "If I had twenty more they should all go!"

## CHAPTER XI

### AN OUTLINE OF DOOR COUNTY'S HISTORY

Door County's first permanent white settler was Increase Claflin who settled at Little Sturgeon in May, 1833. He was a trapper and Indian trader. Soon after him came the fishermen, settling first on Rock Island and Washington Island and gradually spreading farther south. In those days the waters of Green Bay seemed to have an inexhaustible supply of whitefish and hundreds of fishermen were busy with their capture. The price of fish at that time was very small, two cents per pound by the ton being all that was paid after it was delivered in Marinette, Menominee or other distant ports.

These first pioneers esteemed the land of little or no value and it was not until after 1850 that anyone settled in the county with the purpose of making a living by agriculture. The first of these were the Norwegian Moravians at Ephraim and Sturgeon Bay. In 1855 and 1856 large numbers of Belgians settled in the deep woods of Union, Brussels and Gardner and began to clear farms. The work of making farms was very slow, however, and there was very little agriculture until about 1870. The population of the county in 1860 was 2,948; and in 1870 it numbered 4,919. Most of these were connected with timber operations and fishing.

About 1850 a number of timber operators saw the possibilities in Door County's abundant forests of pine and cedar. Mills were built in Sturgeon Bay and other places and many larger piers were built around the shores of the peninsula for the shipping of telegraph poles, ties, dimension timber, lumber and cordwood. Until 1890 lumbering and the shipping of cedar was the principal industry of the county. Many of these shipping points, now almost forgotten, were then busy centers of trade where husky woodsmen gathered, wondering dismally what would become of the county when the timber was all cut. Among these defunct villages of Door County may be mentioned Little Sturgeon, Fascaró, Clay Banks, Horns Pier, Podunk, Whitefish Bay, Rowleys, North Bay and Hedge Hog Harbor. Almost every original entry of land in Door County was for



lumber exploitation. When the best of the timber was cut the land was usually sold for taxes to a woodchopper who would keep it for a year or two whereupon it would again be sold for taxes. The early files of the county papers each year show lists of thousands of tracts of land advertised for sale for taxes.

In the meantime a few persistent pioneers here and there stuck to their claims laboriously clearing the land and grubbing the stumps. They eked out a precarious living by helping at fishing, shaving shingles or cutting cordwood or railroad ties. There was, however, extremely small returns for forest products and a large share of the timber was rolled together and burned on the ground. The following price list advertised by Horn & Joseph at Sherman Bay shows how little was paid for forest products as late as 1880:

Maplewood, sawed, per cord.....	\$2.12 $\frac{1}{2}$
Birch wood, sawed, per cord.....	1.62 $\frac{1}{2}$
Split and 4-inch round cedar posts, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet long	.02
5-inch round cedar posts, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet long.....	.02 $\frac{3}{4}$
9-inch round cedar posts, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet long.....	.04 $\frac{1}{2}$
Cedar ties, 6 in. x 6 in. x 8 ft.....	.15
Hemlock ties, 6 in. x 6 in. x 8 ft.....	.11
Cedar poles, 25 feet long, 6-inch top.....	.37 $\frac{1}{2}$
Cedar poles, 25 feet long 4-inch top.....	.25
Hemlock bark, per cord.....	3.00

The hemlock logs after they were peeled were usually left to rot in the woods.

Many of the settlers, in hewing a farm from the forest, had to "eat it as they went." That is, when they cut a tree, they worked it up into shingles, shaved out by hand, or split it into bolts, barrel staves, or some other marketable product. The marketing or hauling was generally done on rude carts, drawn by cows and oxen and, when closely pinched, by man and wife. The little jag or load was traded for groceries and supplies, which were carted home and sustained life while more trees were felled and worked into marketables.

While the land was very cheap and material for a humble log house could be had for the cutting, it was a far bigger problem to get water. Owing to the great expense of drilling a well through a layer of stone 200 feet thick there were very few wells drilled the first thirty years. Shallow but unsanitary rain water cisterns were common, but these had to be supplemented with much carrying and hauling of water. The wood wagons creaking their way over rough roads

to Sturgeon Bay were usually surmounted by a water barrel for the return home. The cattle roamed at large finding their water in ditches and swamps and in winter they licked snow.

In 1847 the Steamer Michigan began to run between Chicago and Buffalo and for sixteen years visited Door County points, these being Washington Harbor, Fish Creek and Sturgeon Bay. Later Baileys Harbor also became a regular stopping place. The Michigan was commanded first by Captain John and later by his nephew, Capt. Albert Stewart. As good natured messengers from the great world outside these men grew into the affections of the people. There were also a number of nondescript hookers which plied along the shore, buying forest products and fish and returning with sundry necessities of life.

Owing to the lack of highways and railroads for transportation, the few stores in the county usually were short in stock, which often caused much inconvenience. Sometimes the vessels bringing provisions in the fall would freeze up and people suffered much hardship during the winter.

In the fall of 1856 the sudden arrival of cold weather prevented several vessels laden with provisions for the winter from reaching any Door County point. The Steamer Ogontz had on a cargo of supplies for the settlement at Sturgeon Bay but when within sight of the village it was obliged to back up out of the ice and land the freight at Egg Harbor. It was necessary for the whole population to turn out and cut a road through the virgin timber to Egg Harbor and bring the bulky freight overland. Throughout the settlements and lumber camps around the county much suffering resulted, as most people had only potatoes and molasses to subsist upon. That winter a man was rated, not by his money, but by his stock of potatoes.

The following year, 1857, a nation-wide panic completely put a stop to the lumbering industry and almost put the fishermen out of business for several years. Then followed the war, during which time there was very little immigration and the business at home stagnated for want of help. After the war followed a few years of prosperity which, however, came to an abrupt end in 1871 in the southern half of the county. October 9th of that year occurred that terrible forest fire which destroyed the timber, the homes, the cattle and in many cases the lives of the settlers and workers of the towns of Union, Brussels, Gardner, Forestville and Nasewaupee. For many years the survivors struggled desperately to overcome the desolation brought by nature on that terrible Sunday.



In 1873 began another period of financial depression. Prices went down so low that very few things could be sold at any profit. Lumber cargoes did not pay for the freight.

One man in 1875 shipped a cargo of telegraph poles to Chicago and was out \$60 after paying the freight. In this year grasshoppers also devastated the fields of the farmers. In 1877 the times were so hard it was almost impossible to collect the taxes. The total assessed valuation of the county in that year was \$724,000, being reduced about 20 per cent from the preceding year.

Yet in spite of these tribulations and hard times most of the old pioneers were of good courage. They found that the soil when freed from stumps and stones in normal years bore wonderful crops, and while there were very small returns for anything they sold because of low prices and the high cost of transportation, they had abundant for man and beast. Having but slight individual means the settlers were more dependent upon each other which made for greater neighborliness and sociability. With prosperity people become largely independent of each other, selfishness is developed and neighborly courtesies are neglected. Not so in the pioneer days. Then each was largely dependent upon his neighbor which encouraged an intimate companionship which is now sorely missed by those who recall the old days.

The winter season especially in the rural districts was the pleasantest time in the year. Corn huskings, paring-bees, quilting frolics, candy-pullings, spelling schools, sleighing parties, and many other excuses for frequent assemblages of young and old folks, made the long evenings pass merrily away, the pleasures of the time being rather increased by the antecedent labors which were the primary reason for many of these gatherings.

The making of a quilt was in those days a matter in which the whole neighborhood manifested a lively interest. For a quilt was not merely a thing of "shreds and patches," but it was a little history in mosaic. Every rag-bag in the neighborhood sent its tribute, and when completed its owner could tell you whose "gown" every separate block represented.

Upon the eventful day the quilting bars were brought down from the garret, the quilt properly fastened thereto, the pattern laid with more or less art, and then the ladies threaded their needles, and quilted and discussed the new minister's wife, and told one another how to make cookies without eggs, biscuits without shortening and the best



remedies for influenza, "rheumatiz," fever-sores, croup, cat-boils and convulsions.

From time to time the bars were rolled up as the work progressed; the ladies hitched their chairs close together, growing more confidential as they did so, and all talking sweetly together at the rate of about seventy-five miles an hour, including stoppages. It was delightful to see them quilt, and talk, and wipe their spectacles, and take snuff.

But such enjoyment could not last forever. The final stitch taken and the room "ridded up" tea was announced, and amid the clattering of china, the incense of young hyson, and the generous cheer of country fare, the ladies found ample consolation for the labors of the afternoon.

The evening was given up to the young folks, who came betimes, and hunted the slipper, and spun the plate, and told fortunes, and paid forfeits, and danced to the music of a wheezy clarinet and a squeaky fiddle, and had such a jolly time as only good-natured lads and buxom lassies know how to enjoy; winding up with a ride home by moonlight, the sleighbells ringing a pleasing accompaniment to the laughter and the song of the party as it sped swiftly along through the frosty night.

These were the fathers and grandfathers of the present generation. Rude in their speech, homely in their ways, and unrefined in their amusements, they were no doubt; yet they some how managed to browse along through the world in comfortable fashion, and lead useful, happy lives. We would laugh at their homespun clothing and their coarse boots were they to come among us today. Nevertheless, it may be as well to make a note of the fact that in spite of their often rough exterior, there were generous, honest souls within. They came bravely into the wilderness to take up battle with a hard, stubborn nature in order that their children might profit. While their own lot was one of almost unceasing toil, worry and self-denial, their sons and daughters are now able to meet the problems of life in ease and comfort.

With the opening of the Sturgeon Bay and Lake Michigan Canal in 1880 the village of Sturgeon Bay experienced quite a boom. This was reflected throughout the county in a greater demand for land. A few years later the railroad from Green Bay to Sturgeon Bay was completed and this perhaps more than anything else helped to build up the county. A means of transportation for the products and people of the county was at last opened up and people no longer felt that

they lived in an inaccessible desert. The county might have had a railroad long before this but a number of men, directly and indirectly interested in various small vessels plying on the bay, had managed to foster a hostile sentiment against railroads.

During the last twenty years, Door County has made very rapid strides toward prosperity. Aside from the patient development of our fertile farming lands which has been the chief cause of this prosperity, three other important factors have greatly helped. These are the fruit growing, summer resort business and the good roads movement. In 1892 the first scientific horticulturists began to demonstrate that Door County was peculiarly favored by nature for the production of extra choice apples, cherries, strawberries and plums. This has brought a great many men of ability and means into the county and much of our land is now cultivated and cared for like a garden. In 1895 our superb scenery began to attract the attention of discriminating people and summer resorters have since then each year gathered here by the thousands, greatly enriching the county. Much of our formerly valueless land along the Green Bay Shore has been bought by them at high prices and is being rapidly and beautifully improved. Finally, in 1906, began our new system of highway improvement which has distinguished Door County as the foremost road builder of the state. The county is now spending more for good roads per capita than any other county in the state, but it is a tax which is most cheerfully paid, as it, with the help of the automobile, has annihilated distance and knit the most distant parts of the county together in a new unity and fellowship.

Door County has now an assessed valuation of more than \$20,000,000. Most of the farms and homes are free from mortgages. There is also on deposit in the local banks more than \$2,000,000. More than 90 per cent of this wealth has been created within the last twenty years.

In view of the obstacles that had to be overcome, Door County has achieved splendid success. Most of its settlers came into this land of timber, stumps and stones empty handed. Farm products in early days were exceedingly low, butter sometimes selling for eight cents a pound and eggs for four cents a dozen. When rains softened the roads, the farmer had to stay at home. Mail was delivered once a week if nothing interfered. When a doctor was needed a thirty-mile trip was often necessary to get him.

Now, as the old pioneer looks about him, he sees a region as well

tilled and fruitful as any in the state. His mail is daily delivered at his door. Telephones are at any man's command. Automobiles now buzz over macadam roads where formerly the oxen toiled through the mud. Comfortable homes line every road. The future looks bright.



# CHAPTER XII

## COMPARATIVE STATISTICS

TABLE I

AREA AND POPULATION OF DOOR COUNTY SHOWN IN RELATION TO OTHER COUNTIES OF THE STATE  
SINCE 1830

	Land Area in Square Miles				Population					
	1810	1816	1890	1890	1880	1870	1860	1850	1840	1830
Wisconsin	55 256	2,333,860	2,069,042	1,693,330	1,315,497	1,054,670	775,681	505,391	30,945	115
Adams	684	8,604	9,141	8,889	8,741	8,631	8,493	187	.....	...
Ashland	1,082	21,965	20,176	20,063	1,559	221	513	.....	.....	...
Barron	885	29,114	23,677	15,416	7,324	538	13	.....	.....	...
Bayfield	1,503	15,987	14,392	7,790	564	344	353	489	.....	...
Brown	529	54,098	46,359	39,164	34,078	25,168	11,795	6,215	3,107	50
Buffalo	687	16,006	16,765	15,897	15,528	11,123	3,864	.....	.....	...
Burnett	869	9,028	7,478	4,393	3,140	706	12	.....	.....	...
Calumet	334	16,701	17,078	16,639	16,632	12,335	7,895	1,743	275	.....
Chippewa	1,039	22,103	33,037	25,143	15,491	8,311	1,895	815	.....	...
Clark	1,218	20,074	25,848	17,708	10,715	3,450	789	.....	.....	...
Columbia	778	31,129	31,121	28,350	26,065	20,802	24,441	9,565	.....	...
Crawford	579	16,288	17,286	15,087	15,444	13,075	8,068	2,498	1,502	65
Dane	1,202	77,435	66,435	59,778	53,243	53,096	42,922	16,639	214	.....
Dodge	897	47,446	46,651	44,984	45,931	47,035	42,818	19,138	67	.....
Door*	469	18,711	17,583	15,682	11,645	4,919	2,948	.....	.....	...
Douglas	1,337	47,422	36,335	13,468	655	1,122	812	.....	.....	...
Dunn	869	25,360	25,043	22,664	16,817	9,488	2,704	.....	.....	...
EAU CLAIRE	638	32,721	31,692	30,673	19,993	10,769	3,162	.....	.....	...
Florence	497	3,381	3,197	2,604	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...
Fond du Lac	726	51,610	47,589	44,088	46,859	46,273	34,154	14,510	139	.....
Forest	1,400	6,792	1,398	1,012	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...
Grant	1,189	39,007	38,861	36,651	37,852	39,979	31,189	16,169	3,926	.....
Green	593	21,641	22,719	22,732	21,729	23,611	19,818	8,560	933	.....
Green Lake	760	15,491	15,797	15,183	14,483	13,195	12,663	.....	.....	...
Iowa	787	22,497	27,114	22,117	23,628	24,544	18,889	9,525	3,978	.....
Iron	792	8,704	6,616	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...
Jackson	990	17,375	17,466	15,797	13,345	7,687	4,170	.....	.....	...
Jefferson	552	34,366	34,789	33,573	32,156	24,040	20,478	15,317	814	.....
Juneau	802	11,569	20,629	17,121	15,782	12,372	8,770	.....	.....	...
Kenosha	282	12,929	21,707	15,581	13,550	17,147	13,906	10,730	.....	...
Kewaunee	737	16,784	17,212	16,153	15,807	16,129	5,530	.....	.....	...
La Crosse	481	43,996	42,497	38,801	27,073	20,297	12,186	.....	.....	...
La Fayette	642	20,075	20,959	20,265	21,279	22,659	18,134	11,331	.....	...
Lafayette	875	17,042	12,573	9,463	685	.....	.....	.....	.....	...
Lincoln	902	17,084	16,268	12,004	2,011	.....	.....	.....	.....	...
Manitowish	602	44,978	42,261	37,831	37,505	33,764	29,416	3,702	235	.....
Marathon	1,554	55,654	41,256	30,369	17,121	5,885	2,892	568	.....	...
Marquette	1,115	23,842	30,822	29,304	8,924	.....	.....	.....	.....	...
Marquette	457	10,741	16,509	9,676	8,908	8,058	8,233	8,641	18	.....
Milwaukee	235	47,187	130,017	276,101	138,537	99,930	62,518	31,077	5,605	.....
Monte	937	28,881	28,107	23,211	21,607	16,550	8,410	.....	.....	...
Oconto	1,118	27,657	20,874	15,009	9,618	8,321	3,592	.....	.....	...
Oneida	901	11,477	8,875	7,016	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...
Ottawago	616	19,192	16,217	18,690	28,716	18,430	9,587	.....	.....	...
Ozaukee	271	17,124	16,763	14,947	15,461	15,564	15,682	.....	.....	...
Pepin	206	7,077	7,005	6,912	4,226	4,679	2,002	.....	.....	...
Pierce	563	22,679	20,443	20,385	17,744	9,978	4,672	.....	.....	...
Polk	175	21,767	17,801	12,008	10,018	3,422	1,400	.....	.....	...
Portage	812	9,945	24,483	24,708	17,711	10,634	7,507	1,250	1,623	.....
Price	1,279	1,579	9,196	5,278	785	.....	.....	.....	.....	...
Racine	324	57,424	45,614	36,268	30,022	26,740	21,760	14,973	3,475	.....
Richland	590	19,809	19,487	19,121	18,174	15,771	9,732	903	.....	...
Rock	716	53,778	51,203	42,220	38,825	30,033	26,690	20,750	1,701	.....
Tusk	925	11,160	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...

# HISTORY OF DOOR COUNTY

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	Land Area in Square Miles		Population								
	1910	1900	1890	1880	1870	1860	1850	1840	1830		
St. Croix	735	25,910	24,830	23,130	18,956	11,025	5,392	624	809		
Sauk	842	32,869	33,046	30,375	29,729	23,860	18,963	3,471	102		
Sawyer	1,320	6,227	3,593	1,977							
Shawano	1,158	31,881	21,475	19,236	10,371	3,166	829				
Sheboygan	521	54,888	50,345	42,489	34,206	31,749	26,875	8,379	123		
Taylor	991	13,841	11,262	6,751	2,311						
Trempealeau	748	23,928	23,114	18,920	17,189	16,732	2,660				
Vernon	821	28,110	28,351	25,111	23,235	18,645	11,007				
Vilas	833	6,019	4,929								
Walworth	560	29,614	29,259	27,860	26,248	25,073	26,496	17,862	2,611		
Washburn	835	8,196	5,521	2,926							
Washington	431	23,784	23,589	22,751	23,462	23,919	23,622	19,485	543		
Waukesha	549	37,103	35,229	33,270	24,957	20,274	26,631	19,258			
Waupaca	759	32,702	31,615	26,794	20,955	15,539	8,951				
Waushara	646	18,886	15,972	13,507	12,687	11,279	9,770				
Winnebago	459	62,118	58,225	50,397	42,746	37,279	23,770	10,107	125		
Wood	808	30,583	25,865	18,127	8,961	3,912	2,425				

\*Was a part of Brown County until 1871

TABLE II

POPULATION OF THE TOWNS OF DOOR COUNTY ACCORDING TO THE OFFICIAL CENSUS FOR EACH DECADE SINCE 1860 INCLUSIVE

	1910	1900	1890	1880	1870	1860
Door County.....	18,711	17,583	15,682	11,645	4,919	2,948
Baileys Harbor.....	628	645	603	549	297	....
Brussels .....	1,410	1,287	1,085	999	406	953-
Clay Banks.....	581	557	609	653	319	56
Egg Harbor.....	1,031	882	821	730	165	....
Forestville .....	1,423	1,364	1,361	1,042	351	85
Gardner .....	902	785	805	603	403	....
Gibraltar .....	1,119	1,185	934	832	466	439
Jacksonport .....	876	913	817	432	139	....
Liberty Grove.....	1,529	1,550	1,536	1,092	333	120
Nasewaupes .....	1,301	1,349	1,057	762	346	196
Sevastopol .....	1,578	1,607	1,313	865	326	199
Sturgeon Bay.....	527	585	1,135	850	690	222
Union .....	641	639	673	610	294	....
Washington .....	903	863	738	427	384	682
Sturgeon Bay City....	4,262	3,372	2,195	1,199	....	....

TABLE III

COMPOSITION AND CHARACTERISTICS OF POPULATION OF DOOR COUNTY

Population .....	1910
Population .....	18,711
Increase, 1900-1910.....	1,128
Percentage of increase.....	6.4
Land area (square miles).....	469
Population per square mile.....	39.9 *
Native white of native parentage.....	5,359
Native white of foreign parentage.....	9,673
Foreign born white.....	3,666
Principal nationalities:	
Born in Austria.....	311
Parents born in Austria.....	397
Born in Belgium.....	325
Parents born in Belgium.....	1,520

\*Average for the state is 42.2

## HISTORY OF DOOR COUNTY

Born in Canada.....	271
Parents born in Canada.....	310
Born in Denmark.....	238
Parents born in Denmark.....	215
Born in Sweden.....	386
Parents born in Sweden.....	339
Born in Norway.....	721
Parents born in Norway.....	598
Born in Ireland.....	85
Parents born in Ireland.....	178
Born in Germany.....	1,158
Parents born in Germany.....	2,246

TABLE IV

## FARM PROPERTY AND FARM PRODUCTS OF DOOR COUNTY APRIL 15, 1910

Population .....	18,711
Number of farms .....	2,310
Number of farms in 1900.....	2,209
less than fifty acres.....	777
fifty to 100 acres.....	1,451
more than 100 acres.....	2,493
Approximate land area.....	300,160
Land in farms in 1910.....	252,596
Land in farms in 1900.....	225,830
Improved land in farms in 1910.....	134,998
Improved land in farms in 1900.....	109,656
Value of all farm property in 1910.....	\$14,746,094
Value of all farm property in 1900.....	\$6,027,645
Per cent increase, 1900-1910.....	144.6
Value of land.....	\$9,571,669
Value of buildings.....	\$3,094,927
Implements and machinery.....	\$724,044
Domestic animals.....	\$1,355,454
All property per farm.....	\$6,384 *
Land per acre .....	\$37.89 †
Land per acre in 1900.....	\$15.87 ‡
Number of cattle .....	24,764
Number of horses.....	6,821
Number of swine .....	8,343
Number of sheep .....	7,405
Number of poultry .....	87,793
Number of farms operated by owners.....	2,224
Number of farms operated by owners in 1900.....	2,106
Number of farms operated by tenants.....	69
Number of farms operated by tenants in 1900.....	88
Number of farms free from mortgage debt.....	1,082
Number of farms with mortgage debt.....	1,137
Livestock products:	
Value of dairy products excluding home use.....	\$353,484
Value of poultry products .....	\$125,283
Domestic animals slaughtered.....	172,664

\*Average for the state, \$7,978.00

†Average for the state, 43.30

‡Average for the state, 26.71

Value of all farm crops.....	\$1,679,929
Number of acres of corn.....	1,417
Number of bushels of corn.....	41,881
Number of acres of oats.....	16,182
Number of bushels of oats.....	492,382
Number of acres of wheat.....	3,474
Number of bushels of wheat.....	52,070
Number of acres of barley.....	5,272
Number of bushels of barley.....	128,166
Number of acres of rye.....	8,468
Number of bushels of rye.....	130,260
Number of acres of peas.....	21,968
Number of bushels of peas.....	309,610
Number of acres of hay.....	34,223
Number of tons of hay.....	48,553
Number of acres of potatoes.....	2,273
Number of bushels of potatoes.....	225,391
Number of apple trees.....	77,764
Number of bushels of apples.....	70,969
Number of cherry trees.....	14,303
Number of bushels of cherries.....	6,860 §

§ In 1917 there were 57,500 bushels of cherries shipped.

## CHAPTER XIII

### POLITICAL ORGANIZATION OF DOOR COUNTY WITH LISTS OF COUNTY OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE

The first event in Door County's political history took place on Rock Island, June 20, 1850. On that day, in the house of H. D. Miner, the Town of Washington was organized. Capt. Amos Saunders was elected chairman, H. D. Miner, clerk, and John Boone, justice of the peace. As taxes at that time were considered an unnecessary evil no assessor or treasurer was elected.

This was the first attempt to establish law and order in Door County. Up to that time the whole peninsula, including the present Kewaunee County, had been a sort of a nameless no man's country, where squatters came and went as they chose, yielding taxes as tribute to no one.

The Town of Washington at that time was a part of Brown County which embraced a large part of the state including all of the Door County peninsula. February 11, 1851, the Legislature set aside the present Door County into a separate county and the county seat was located at Baileys Harbor under the name of Gibraltar. This was done through the efforts of a Milwaukee business man by the name of Alanson Sweet who had purchased some land within the present Village of Baileys Harbor and who hoped to increase the value of this real estate by making it the county seat. There were only a few fishermen in the county at this time and most of these did not even know of the county organization as no steps were taken to set up a county government. The few real estate transfers that at this time or before were made were all recorded in Brown or Manitowoc counties which both claimed the peninsula.

The next step in Door County's political history was an act passed by the Legislature in the winter of 1855 organizing Sturgeon Bay into an election precinct. In November of that year a very curious election for governor of the state was held in the village as is described in the chapter on Sturgeon Bay, page 304, but no general elec-

tion was held. In July, 1856, a town election was held and O. P. Graham was elected chairman. In November of that year A. G. Warren was elected chairman. There was now quite a demand that the county board of the new county should meet and levy taxes for the needed improvements. As Mr. Warren did not know where the county seat of Door County was, he struck a bee line through the woods to Green Bay to consult John Last, the district attorney of Brown County. Mr. Last gave a written opinion that the county seat was Gibraltar, supposed to be located in section 20, town 30, range 28, where now lies the Village of Baileys Harbor. He also authorized A. G. Warren and W. H. Warren and John Garland, justices of the peace elect, to constitute the board for the canvass of returns. Not only did they constitute themselves a board of canvassers, but they also, in some manner which they could not later explain, constituted themselves into a "county board of supervisors." In November, 1856, these three men thereupon set out afoot through the swamps and along the lake shore to discover "Gibraltar," Door County's legal county seat. They were not sure just which piece of timber constituted the capital of the county as the shore looked pretty much the same to them. Finally, however, they identified it by the ruins of certain shanties erected by Mr. Sweet's men some years previously but which were now deserted. Here on some fallen logs the self-appointed county fathers sat in state awaiting the arrival of J. Nolan, the chairman of Washington. However, Mr. Nolan as chairman of the only properly organized town in the county considered himself the whole thing and was too busy with his fishing to come. Some ducks were killed and eaten but still no signs appeared of Mr. Nolan. The board of canvassers thereupon declared the following men elected November 4th, prox, to be the properly elected officers of Door County and went home: Ezra B. Stevens, member of assembly; Joseph Harris, register of deeds and clerk of the board; Robert Graham, county treasurer; H. Schuyler, county surveyor; H. S. Schuyler, county coroner.

As there was great doubt about the legality of these proceedings and the status of the town, the Town of Sturgeon Bay was again and formally organized in 1857 under the name of Otumba. It embraced all of Door County except the Town of Washington, which had the same limits then as now. Henry Schuyler, Sr., was elected chairman and Joseph Harris clerk.

Notice was sent to J. Nolan, chairman of the Town of Washington, that a meeting of the county board would be held in Stur-

geon Bay, or Graham, as the village was then named, on November 10, 1857. Mr. Nolan, however, did not come. As no quorum could be had without the presence of Mr. Nolan who constituted half of the board, the meeting was adjourned until December 5, 1857, to meet on Washington Island. Mr. Harris describes this journey as follows: "Mr. J. Nolan, who was chairman of the Town of Washington, refused to come to Sturgeon Bay to hold the meeting, and Squire Henry Schuyler, who was chairman of Otumba, and myself agreed to go to Washington Island for that purpose. It was late in November when we started on foot through the woods to Fish Creek, that being the nearest place where a sailboat could be got. There were no roads in any part of the county at that time, and no trail north of Sturgeon Bay. We started in Jacob St. Ore's large sailboat, or sloop, with another man to help sail it and arrived at the island the same day. The next day the first meeting of a county board in Door County was held. Squire Schuyler was chosen chairman, and myself clerk of the board. The tax levy was made and Door County was set upon its legs. The next evening we started back to Fish Creek. While attempting to cross Death's Door, a heavy squall came up, which prevented us from reaching the mainland. We ran before the wind until about midnight, when, seeing lights ahead, we let go anchor. When daylight came we found ourselves at Flat Rock (near Escanaba), where we had been driven by the storm. During the night the wind changed to the north; raining, snowing, and freezing so that the deck and rigging was a mass of ice, but we reached Fish Creek that afternoon, having a fine breeze from over the after quarter of the boat. At Fish Creek we borrowed a smaller sailboat and started for Sturgeon Bay, which was reached late that night to find the bay frozen over nearly down to Laurie's place, where with difficulty we landed. We hauled the boat ashore and footed it home."<sup>1</sup>

The business done at this meeting was as follows: Taxes were levied and assessments equalized, the value of lands being fixed at \$3 per acre for improved land, \$2.50 for unimproved, and \$6 for pine lands. The Town of Gibraltar was set off embracing all of the peninsula north of the present Town of Sevastopol and the islands west of it. The Town of Forestville was set off embracing the present towns of Forestville and Clay Banks; all the rest of the peninsula was included in the Town of Otumba. Henry Schuyler, Sr., was appointed county surveyor. A bounty of \$2.50 per head was adopted

<sup>1</sup> From Martin's History of Door County, page 37.

for the destruction of wolves. County orders were issued amounting to about \$320. The meeting was then adjourned to meet again on Washington Island on February 10, 1858. At this meeting the Town of Brussels was set off, consisting of the present towns of Brussels, Union and Gardner.

The first meeting of the county board to be held in Sturgeon Bay was held August 30, 1858. Those present at this meeting were Ezra B. Stevens, of Otumba, chairman, John S. Torrey, of Gibraltar, and Abel Crawford, of Forestville. The meeting was short, consisting chiefly of voting an appropriation of \$180 to be expended in opening the Green Bay and Sturgeon Bay State Road. In the November meeting of the same year the Town of Chambers Island was set off from Gibraltar. The next February, 1859, the towns of Liberty Grove and Clay Banks were set off. In November, 1859, the towns of Nasewaupee and Sevastopol were set off. Egg Harbor and Baileys Harbor were detached from Gibraltar and set off as separate towns July 9, 1861. Gardner was detached from Brussels and set off June 10, 1862. Union was set off in November, 1865. Jacksonport, the last organized town, was not set off by the county board but was detached from Baileys Harbor and Egg Harbor by a special act of the Legislature passed in the session of 1869 through the efforts of Col. Charles L. Harris.

By this time, in fact in 1857, the county seat was by an act of the Legislature changed from Gibraltar (now Baileys Harbor) to Graham (now Sturgeon Bay). To accomplish this it was necessary for Joseph Harris, the county clerk, and the Warren brothers to make several journeys along the lake shore to Baileys Harbor in all kinds of weather for the purpose of posting notices as required by law. An election was then held in the county to enable the voters to indicate their choice of location of the county seat. To facilitate this election it is asserted that a cigar box was carried around to the voters who were asked to drop their ballot into the same.

In 1861 the Legislature passed a law providing that the county board should meet July 8, 1861, for the purpose of dividing the county into three districts. Each district was thereafter to elect one supervisor. The county board divided the county as follows:

District 1. Town of Brussels (including the present towns of Union and Gardner).

District 2. Towns of Clay Banks, Forestville, Nasewaupee, Sturgeon Bay and Sevastopol.



District 3. Towns of Gibraltar, Liberty Grove, Chambers Island and Washington.

This system of county government by three commissioners proved very unsatisfactory and obnoxious. It permitted grave injustice in the equalization of taxes, and numerous forms of graft. One of the most common was for the three men to vote large appropriations for road improvements and then appoint themselves road commissioners. The law was repealed in 1869.

Since 1870 the county board has been made up of one representative (the chairman) from each town and incorporated village, and one representative from each ward in the City of Sturgeon Bay. In the early years the personnel of the county board underwent great changes each year, more than half of the members of each county board being new officials. This seriously impaired the efficiency of the county board and greatly added to its expense. Not being familiar with their duties it was difficult for the board members to manage the business of the county and from six to ten adjourned meetings per year were common. The county board elected in 1866 held seventeen meetings from November, 1866, to June, 1868. This was partly due to its attempt to oust the county treasurer, Joseph Harris, Sr., from his office. The county board in its regular session in November, 1866, had neglected to fix the amount of the treasurer's bond. He filled out a bond for \$10,000, the amount of bonds required by the former county board. At this time Mr. Harris was state senator and had political enemies who wanted his job as treasurer. They persuaded the county board to meet in February, 1867, and fix the treasurer's bond at \$20,000. Before Mr. Harris had time to provide the new bond the board met again, February 20th, and declared the county treasurer's office vacant and appointed G. W. Allen, the attorney who juggled the case for them, county treasurer. There was great disgust at this action of the county board and Mr. Harris in the Advocate of February 28, 1867, comes out with spirited defense declaring he would not surrender the office. He also openly charged James Gillispie, one of the members of the board, with graft.

The county board, finding that their proceedings were irregular, met again March 9, 1867, and renewed their appointment of G. W. Allen, charging that Harris' bond was insufficiently signed. Mr. Harris' bond was signed, however, by twenty of the most representative men of the county, while Mr. Allen's was signed by ten. With this to fall back upon, Mr. Harris again refused to give up the office.

The question of who was county treasurer now remained in a deadlock for several months. In the meantime both sides appealed to the public for support. Mr. Allen was a Confederate sympathizer and was therefore unpopular. In the preceding election he had run for district attorney and received only ten votes in his own town, Sturgeon Bay, and but few more in the whole county. Finding that the people of the county were almost unanimously on the side of Harris, the new county board which met in November, 1867, rescinded the resolutions against Harris and accepted his bond.

Another matter which caused great controversy in the county was a foolish resolution passed in the November, 1871, meeting of the county board. This resolution was directed to the member of the State Assembly from Door County, asking that he "procure the passage of a law requiring owners or occupants of improved lands to have same enclosed with a legal fence \* \* \* as a prerequisite to the recovery of all damages for injury done by animals of any other persons trespassing on such lands." A very spirited discussion followed in the county paper in which the farmers of the county energetically protested against being compelled to fence their lands for the benefit of those whose cattle roamed at large. This attitude of the Door County farmers was later sustained by the Legislature.

The county tax voted by these early county boards was excessively high considering the small resources of the county. For instance, the county tax in 1871 was \$8,200 levied against an assessed valuation of \$724,000. This makes a rate of \$1.13 per \$100 of valuation. As a comparison may be taken our last county tax levy, in 1916, of \$55,000 against an assessed valuation of almost \$21,000,000. This makes a county tax of 26 cents per \$100, or less than one-fourth of the tax rate paid in 1871.

Not content with that, however, the county board of 1872 more than doubled the county tax, voting a tax of \$18,019, making a tax of about \$2 per \$100, or about eight times the present county tax rate. Nine thousand dollars of this was a special highway tax and the county board of 1872 elected three of their own number as commissioners to spend it. These road bills were openly charged by the Advocate to be false and fraudulent and there was great disgust at the irresponsible actions of the county board. The proceedings of the board were not printed, which gave further cause for criticism to the opposition. They were hazed in the press all through the winter. On one occasion the Advocate characterized the board as follows: "The members of the county board of Waupaca County have had



their pedigrees printed in one of the county papers. Some of our county supervisors have too long ears to have a very illustrious pedigree." In spring almost every member of the county board was defeated for re-election.

Little by little the members of the county board learned to get their "long ears" (reminiscent of asinine progenitors) down to the ground and hearken to the wishes of the people. By so doing the county board of Door County has now become a very efficient body of public officials. This was helped by the realization of the electors that a new body of officials is not in position to handle the affairs of the county with discretion. It has therefore become the custom to return the same member to the county board for a long series of years. Among the longest records are those of N. J. Delfosse who served on the county board representing the Town of Union for twenty-three years until he died. Frank Wellever comes next with a record of twenty-one years as representative of Egg Harbor. John Fetzer of Forestville and Roger Eatough of Baileys Harbor each served twenty years. Mr. Fetzer died in office. Mr. Eatough was chairman of the county board for twenty years. Kearn Bowe of the Town of Sturgeon Bay has a unique record of representing his town for fifteen consecutive years.

The first meeting place of the county board, as told above, was on some fallen logs where now stands the Village of Baileys Harbor. The second was on Washington Island. About 1860 a small courthouse was built on Main Street, opposite the present office of the Sturgeon Bay Advocate. This little building did service until 1878 when the present commodious courthouse was built.

One peculiar characteristic of the county government for many years was the chronic state of bankruptcy of the county treasury. The reason for this was that the county was generally a year behind its bills. The finance committee, familiar with this state of things, usually recommended a budget which would enable the county to do a cash business. However, this budget was uniformly cut in two upon the recommendation of certain members from the southern part of the county who wanted to go home and tell their voters how they "had saved the county big taxes." As a matter of fact their false economy placed a heavy burden upon the county. Each year the county board went through the ridiculous form of instructing the clerk to purchase needed articles where he could buy them cheapest. However, as no pay could be promised for a year or so, he was obliged to purchase everything from certain jobbers who



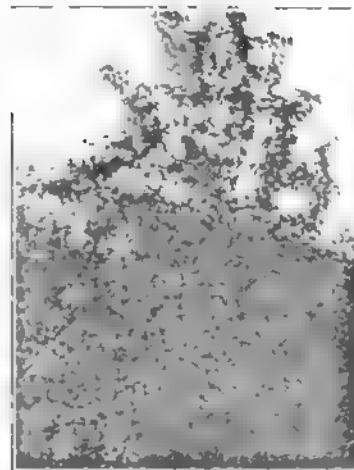


**M. E. LYMAN**  
**First County Judge**

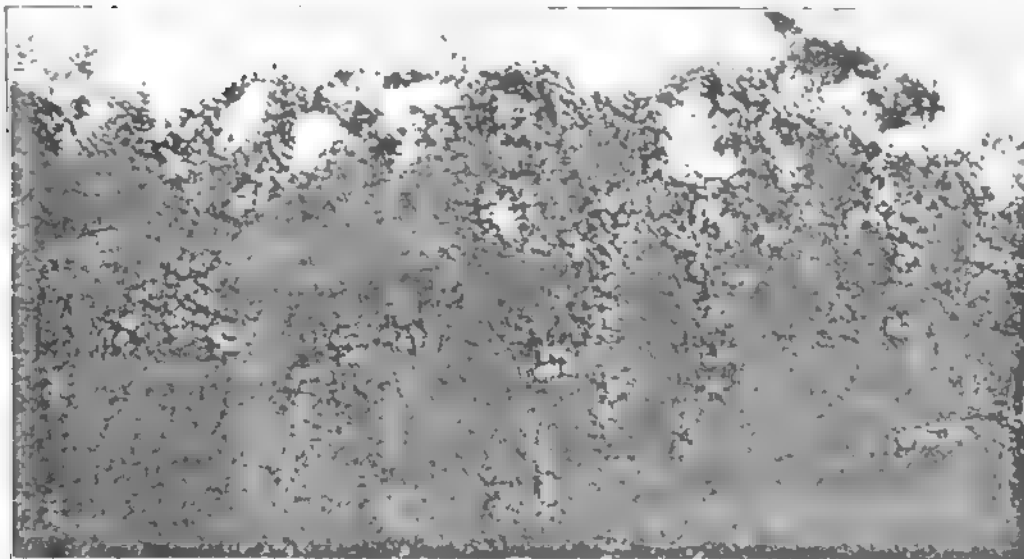




CHERRIES, A PRODUCT OF STURGEON  
BAY



DOOR COUNTY PEAR TREE,  
STURGEON BAY



A TREE LOADED WITH DOOR COUNTY PLUMS, STURGEON BAY





Year	Money was raised	Balleys Harbor	Drumels	Clay Banka	Fog Harbor	Forestville	Gardner	Gibbaltar	Jacksonport	Liberty Grove	Nanewaupee	Sevastopol
1905	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$ 982.30
1906	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,220.00
1907	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$718.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$1,061.00	1,013.13
1908	.....	.....	.....	.....	715.00	.....	\$ 800.00	.....	.....	.....	1,078.04	1,020.74
1909	.....	.....	.....	.....	777.82	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,074.65	.....
1910	.....	.....	.....	.....	792.56	.....	800.00	.....	.....	.....	1,101.44	.....
1911	.....\$ 600.00	.....	\$1,091.77	.....	801.63	.....	800.00	\$ 740.03	\$ 493.30	.....	1,101.44	1,200.00
1912	.....600.00	.....	1,091.77	.....	741.00	\$1,000.00	800.00	725.43	1,724.00	\$100.00	1,109.82	1,000.00
1913	.....800.75	.....	2,172.77	\$500.00	827.48	1,300.00	1,200.00	800.00	350.00	900.00	1,079.89	1,000.00
1914	.....1,227.20	.....	1,630.55	.....	840.00	2,000.00	1,400.00	800.00	1,000.00	500.00	1,098.50	.....
1915	.....792.64	.....	1,672.72	800.00	800.00	1,800.00	1,400.00	1,205.00	1,000.00	500.00	1,021.39	1,794.60
1916	.....797.63	.....	1,927.00	.....	800.00	2,200.00	1,400.00	2,227.00	2,000.00	230.00	1,068.37	2,249.77
Total	.....\$1,677.93	.....	\$9,587.00	\$800.00	\$7,751.85	\$9,100.00	\$8,400.00	\$6,707.43	\$9,377.00	\$3,230.00	\$10,795.82	\$11,590.10

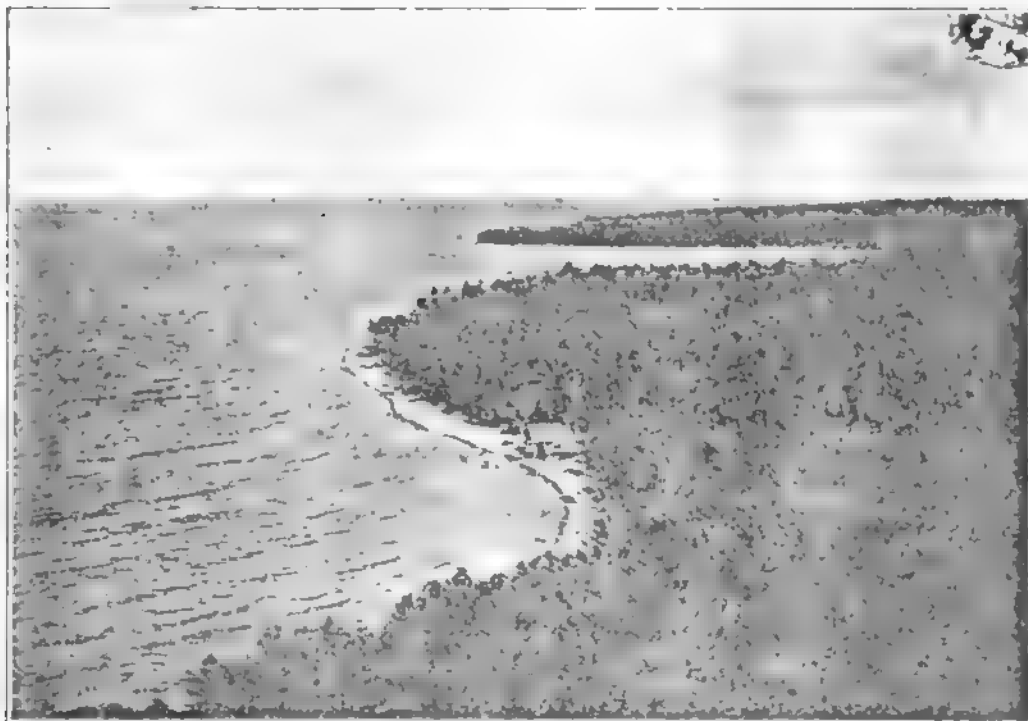


Sturgeon Bay (Town)	Sturgeon Bay (City)	Union	Washington	Year Money Spent	County Appropriations	Aid from State	Total Expenses for New Roads	Number of Miles Constructed	For Maintenance, Machinery, etc.	Automobile Fund
.....	.....	.....	.....	1906	\$ 992.33	.....	\$ 1,381.60	1 1/2	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....	1907	1,229.00	.....	2,652.00	1 1/2	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....	1908	2,790.74	.....	3,301.48	2 1/2	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....	1909	3,613.88	.....	4,827.66	4	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....	1910	1,832.47	.....	3,734.04	2 1/2	.....	.....
\$501.96	.....	.....	.....	1911	3,100.00	.....	4,397.82	2 1/2	.....	.....
501.15	.....	.....	.....	1912	7,300.01	\$ 4,022.88	16,771.90	11 1/2	\$ 1,831.00	\$ 452.17
542.00	.....	.....	.....	1913	9,733.03	9,733.03	20,305.00	15	3,651.00	800.92
500.00	\$3,700.00	\$ 500.00	.....	1914	14,491.20	9,761.50	37,744.28	17 1/2	7,372.00	1,000.92
.....	1,750.00	500.00	\$100.00	1915	34,100.00	13,031.03	41,844.30	30	1,893.00	1,916.58
300.00	.....	500.00	500.00	1916	14,120.75	8,070.00	33,802.40	18 1/2	1,600.00	2,120.00
500.00	.....	1,200.00	170.00	1917	18,000.00	3,257.22	41,007.20	19 1/2	10,000.00	4,403.77
\$3,090.11	\$4,450.00	\$3,000.00	\$1,200.00	.....	201,363.13	\$47,310.20	\$230,000.53	123 1/2	\$20,147.00	\$11,559.42





A LAGOON IN PENINSULA PARK



VIEW IN PENINSULA PARK



were willing to wait so long and therefore in return charged twenty-five to one hundred per cent more for their goods than where a cash deal was involved.

When Eli Thompson entered upon his duties as county treasurer on the first day of January, 1883, he gave bonds in the sum of \$30,000, for the safe keeping of moneys intrusted to his hands. When he opened the people's strong box he found himself the custodian of just thirty-two cents! Not only this but he found that the county was at that time about eight thousand dollars in debt, and that no provision whatever had been made by the county board to cancel its obligations. The witnesses at the ensuing term of the circuit court were obliged to go home without any compensation and so were the officers of the court. The jurors fared a little better, Mr. Higgins personally paying them out of his own pocket. This state of things was customary year after year. The result was that the credit of the county was ruined and county orders were classed with Confederate money. Certain dissatisfied recipients even made spitballs of them.

Certain enterprising brokers saw in this state of things an opportunity for making easy money. They bought up the orders at fifty cents on the dollar, locked them up in their safes for a year or two until the "economical" members of the county board tardily levied the taxes necessary to meet them and then cashed in at full value.

Another characteristic of the past was the domination exercised over the county board by certain rival business interests. For many years the county board's allegiance was divided between "the Leathem & Smith Crowd" and "the A. W. Lawrence crowd." These two factors fought each other in many questions such as the bridge, the railroad, county newspapers and state politics. While neither faction was pre-eminent in either vice or virtue they strove hard for mastery in county matters and the county board was therefore constantly divided on questions of public policy.

These conditions have happily ceased. After having for many years crawled snail fashion along the road of public progress, retarded by false motives of economy, and after having been misled and checkmated by rival interests, the county board has now shaken off all fetters and attends to its business with such intelligence and enterprise that it has won from the Capitol the verdict: "An excellent county board."

The following pages give complete lists of the members of every county board since 1857.

Vol. I—7



## HISTORY OF DOOR COUNTY

THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR THE YEARS 1857 TO 1869 INCLUSIVE  
(The name of the chairman of the board is printed in italics)

- 1857—Otumba,<sup>1</sup> *Henry Schuyler, Sr.* Washington, John Nolan.  
 1858—Forestville, Abel Crawford. Gibraltar, John S. Torrey. Otumba, *Ezra B. Stevens.*  
 1859—Brussels, William Moore. Clay Banks, Abel Crawford. Forestville, Joseph McCormick. Gibraltar, Peter Peterson. Liberty Grove, Ingelbret Torgerson. Otumba, *Ezra B. Stevens.*  
 1860—Brussels, H. J. Sorenson. Clay Banks, Abel Crawford. Forestville, Peter Thompson. Gibraltar, *David Graham.* Liberty Grove, Ingelbret Torgerson. Otumba, Chauncey Haskell. Sevastopol, E. Hibbard. Nasewaupee, Martin Peters. Washington, D. H. Rice.  
 1861—Brussels, F. Pierre. Clay Banks, *W. H. Warren.* Forestville, Peter Thompson. Gibraltar, Asa Thorp. Liberty Grove, C. J. Christenson. Otumba, C. E. Hoyt. Sevastopol, H. B. Stephenson. Nasewaupee, Ole Johnson. Washington, D. H. Rice.  
 1862-63—District 1,\* M. Schmitz. District 2,† *A. G. Warren.* District 3,‡ D. H. Rice.  
 1864-65—District 1,\* Joseph Colignon. District 2,† James Gillispie. District 3,‡ *Allen H. Powers.*  
 1866—District 1,\* Joseph Colignon. District 2,† James Gillispie. District 3,‡ *Z. T. Morbek.*  
 1867—District 1,\* Joseph Colignon. District 2,† James Gillispie. District 3,‡ *M. Kilgore.*  
 1868—District 1,\* *Joseph Colignon.* District 2,† George Bassford. District 3,‡ M. Kilgore.  
 1869—District 1,\* Joseph Delfosse. District 2,† *George Bassford.* District 3,‡ H. M. Stevens.

THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR THE YEARS 1870 TO 1917 INCLUSIVE  
(The name of the chairman of the board is printed in italics)

- 1870—Baileys Harbor, T. W. McCullough. Brussels, John Moore. Clay Banks, *D. B. Coon.* Egg Harbor, N. W. Kirtland. Forestville, John Fetzer. Gardner, Thomas Riley. Gibraltar, F. G. Blakefield. Jacksonport, C. L. Harris. Liberty Grove, B. Aslagson. Nasewaupee, John Murray. Sevastopol, H. Seiderman. Sturgeon Bay, John McKinney. Union, Pierre Decamp. Washington, C. G. Lathrop.  
 1871—Baileys Harbor, W. R. Higgins. Brussels, Adrian Francois. Clay Banks, D. B. Coon. Egg Harbor, David Graham. Forestville, John Fetzer. Gardner, *W. H. Foote.* Gibraltar, Peter Peterson. Jacksonport, Henry Reynolds. Liberty Grove, M. Kirsch. Nasewaupee, John Murray. Sevastopol, George Bassford. Sturgeon Bay, Nels Tostenson. Union, Pierre Decamp. Washington, V. S. Garrett.  
 1872—Baileys Harbor, W. R. Higgins. Brussels, Adrian Francois. Clay Banks, *D. B. Coon.* Egg Harbor, David Graham. Forestville, John Fetzer. Gardner, Thomas Riley. Gibraltar, A. Noble. Jacksonport, G. F. Rowell. Liberty Grove, John Thoreson. Nasewaupee, John Murray. Sevastopol, Fred Schuyler. Sturgeon Bay, D. A. Reed. Union, Pierre Decamp. Washington, W. C. Betta.  
 1873—Baileys Harbor, W. R. Higgins. Brussels, Alexis Frank. Clay Banks, A. J. Schuyler. Egg Harbor, David Graham. Forestville, John Keogh. Gardner, Philip Riley. Gibraltar, *A. Noble.* Jacksonport, P. W. Kirtland. Liberty Grove, A. Wiltse. Nasewaupee, Jesse Kimber. Sevastopol, Joseph Zettel. Sturgeon Bay, R. M. Wright. Union, Pierre Decamp. Washington, W. H. Gibson.  
 1874—Baileys Harbor, H. G. Spring. Brussels, Alexis Frank. Clay Banks, W. H. Warren. Egg Harbor, David Graham. Forestville, John Fetzer. Gardner, Philip Riley. Gibraltar, *A. Noble.* Jacksonport, P. W. Kirtland. Liberty Grove, A. Wiltse. Nasewaupee, John Mullane. Sevastopol, Joseph Zettel. Sturgeon Bay, D. A. Reed. Union, Pierre Decamp. Washington, V. S. Garrett.

<sup>1</sup> Old name of Town of Sturgeon Bay. Was changed to Sturgeon Bay in 1860.

\*Including the present towns of Brussels, Gardner and Union.

†Including the present towns of Clay Banks, Forestville, Nasewaupee, Sturgeon Bay and Sevastopol.

‡Including the present towns of Gibraltar, Liberty Grove, Washington, Egg Harbor, Baileys Harbor and Jacksonport.

1875—Baileys Harbor, *H. G. Spring*. Brussels, Alexis Frank. Clay Banks, W. H. Warren. Egg Harbor, A. D. Thorp. Forestville, John Fetzer. Gardner, J. Corbuser. Gibraltar, Sam Churches. Jacksonport, Robert Logan. Liberty Grove, A. Wiltse. Nasewaupsee, John Mullane. Sevastopol, J. R. Mann. Sturgeon Bay, L. M. Washburn. Union, Frank Evrard. Washington, William Wickman. Sturgeon Bay Village, J. C. Pinney.

1876—Baileys Harbor, *H. G. Spring*. Brussels, Alexis Frank. Clay Banks, C. R. Thayer. Egg Harbor, A. D. Thorp. Forestville, John Fetzer. Gardner, P. Riley. Gibraltar, Sam Churches. Jacksonport, J. T. Bagnall. Liberty Grove, John Thoreson. Nasewaupsee, John Mullane. Sevastopol, Joseph Zettel. Sturgeon Bay, John Noyes. Union, Frank Evrard. Washington, William Wickman. Sturgeon Bay Village, G. W. Allen.

1877—Baileys Harbor, *H. G. Spring*. Brussels, Alexis Frank. Clay Banks, C. R. Thayer. Egg Harbor, David Graham. Forestville, John Fetzer. Gardner, James Dalemont. Gibraltar, Sam Churches. Jacksonport, J. T. Bagnall. Liberty Grove, Hans Johnson. Nasewaupsee, John Mullane. Sevastopol, James Gillispie. Sturgeon Bay, John Noyes. Union, Pierre Decamp. Washington, V. S. Garrett. Sturgeon Bay Village, J. T. Wright.

1878—Baileys Harbor, *H. G. Spring*. Brussels, Alexis Frank. Clays Banks, C. R. Thayer. Egg Harbor, L. D. Thorp. Forestville, John Fetzer. Gardner, A. Bossmann. Gibraltar, Sam Churches. Jacksonport, P. G. Wright. Liberty Grove, A. Henderson. Nasewaupsee, John Mullane. Sevastopol, Joseph Zettel. Sturgeon Bay, John Noyes. Union, Pierre Decamp. Washington, F. W. Anderson. Sturgeon Bay Village, C. Leonhardt.

1879—Baileys Harbor, *H. G. Spring*. Brussels, John Moore. Clay Banks, C. R. Thayer. Egg Harbor, L. D. Thorp. Forestville, John Fetzer. Gardner, P. Riley. Gibraltar, A. Noble. Jacksonport, P. W. Kirtland. Liberty Grove, John Thoreson. Nasewaupsee, A. Wobser. Sevastopol, J. R. Mann. Sturgeon Bay, John Noyes. Union, Pierre Decamp. Washington, W. F. Anderson. Sturgeon Bay Village, *C. A. Masse*.

1880—Baileys Harbor, Roger Eatough. Brussels, Felix Englebert. Clay Banks, G. M. Rickaby. Egg Harbor, David Graham. Forestville, *John Fetzer*. Gardner, James Dalemont. Gibraltar, A. Noble. Jacksonport, R. S. Erskine. Liberty Grove, John Thoreson. Nasewaupsee, John Mullane. Sevastopol, James Gillispie. Sturgeon Bay, John Noyes. Union, Pierre Decamp. Washington, V. E. Rohn. Sturgeon Bay Village, G. A. Dreutzer.

1881—Baileys Harbor, T. W. McCullough. Brussels, P. Englebert. Clay Banks, G. M. Rickaby. Egg Harbor, David Graham. Forestville, *John Fetzer*. Gardner, James Dalemont. Gibraltar, A. Noble. Jacksonport, R. S. Erskine. Liberty Grove, A. J. Wiltse. Nasewaupsee, Edward Kinney. Sevastopol, James Gillispie. Sturgeon Bay, A. Larson. Union, N. J. Delfosse. Washington, V. S. Garrett. Sturgeon Bay City, First Ward, G. A. Dreutzer.

1882—Baileys Harbor, T. W. McCullough. Brussels, Alex Meunier. Clay Banks, G. M. Rickaby. Egg Harbor, \*Christ Helm. Forestville, John Fetzer. Gardner, James Dalemont. Gibraltar, A. Noble. Jacksonport, †P. W. Kirtland. Liberty Grove, F. Bonin. Nasewaupsee, Edward Kinney. Sevastopol, George Beyer. Sturgeon Bay, A. Larson. Union, N. J. Delfosse. Washington, V. S. Garrett. Sturgeon Bay City, *G. A. Dreutzer*.

1883—Baileys Harbor, J. E. Stephan. Brussels, D. Englebert. Clay Banks, G. M. Rickaby. Egg Harbor, Eugene Cordier. Forestville, *John Fetzer*. Gardner, James Dalemont. Gibraltar, A. Noble. Jacksonport, J. T. Bagnall. Liberty Grove, A. Wiltse. Nasewaupsee, Edward Kinney. Sevastopol, George Beyer. Sturgeon Bay, John Noyes. Union, N. J. Delfosse. Washington, J. P. Larson. Sturgeon Bay City, First Ward, George Nelson; Second Ward, Y. V. Dreutzer; Third Ward, C. Feldman.

1884—Baileys Harbor, J. E. Stephan. Brussels, William Moore. Clay Banks, Alex Tufts. Egg Harbor, Eugene Cordier. Forestville, *John Fetzer*. Gardner, Eugene Simon. Gibraltar, Sam Churches. Jacksonport, David Shampo. Liberty Grove, A. Wiltse. Nasewaupsee, Edward Kinney. Sevastopol, George Beyer. Sturgeon Bay, John Noyes. Union, N. J. Delfosse. Washington, H. O. Baabye. Sturgeon Bay City, First Ward, George Nelson; Second Ward, J. Colignon; Third Ward, W. A. Lawrence.

\*Served on the county board instead of the chairman, David Graham, who died.

†Served on the county board instead of the chairman, J. C. Messenger.

1885—Baileys Harbor, Claudie Brown. Brussels, William Moore. Clay Banks, Alex Tufts. Egg Harbor, Christ Stellwagen. Forestville, John Keogh. Gardner, Eugene Simon. Gibraltar, A. Noble. Jacksonport, Linc. Erskine. Liberty Grove, A. Wiltse. Nasewaupée, Edward Kinney. Sevastopol, George Beyer. Sturgeon Bay, Kearn Bowe. Union, John Bouillon. Washington, V. S. Garrett. Sturgeon Bay City, First Ward, *George Nelson*; Second Ward, L. M. Washburn; Third Ward, W. A. Lawrence.

1886—Baileys Harbor, J. E. Stephan. Brussels, F. Englebert. Clay Banks, A. J. Schuyler. Egg Harbor, Eugene Cordier. Forestville, John Keogh. Gardner, Eugene Simon. Gibraltar, J. A. Smith. Jacksonport, Sam Bagnall. Liberty Grove, A. Wiltse. Nasewaupée, James Cunningham. Sevastopol, George Beyer. Sturgeon Bay, Kearn Bowe. Union, N. J. Delfosse. Washington, V. S. Garrett. Sturgeon Bay City, First Ward, *George Nelson*; Second Ward, J. Colignon; Third Ward, F. J. Hamilton.

1887—Baileys Harbor, J. E. Stephan. Brussels, William Moore. Clay Banks, C. L. Fellows. Egg Harbor, Frank Wellever. Forestville, John Fetzer. Gardner, Eugene Simon. Gibraltar, J. A. Smith. Jacksonport, David Shampo. Liberty Grove, S. A. Rogers. Nasewaupée, James Cunningham. Sevastopol, George Beyer. Sturgeon Bay, Kearn Bowe. Union, J. B. Delwiche. Washington, V. S. Garrett. Sturgeon Bay City, First Ward, *George Nelson*; Second Ward, C. Leonhardt; Third Ward, W. A. Lawrence.

1888—Baileys Harbor, J. E. Stephan. Brussels, Wm. Moore. Clay Banks, C. L. Fellows. Egg Harbor, Frank Wellever. Forestville, John Fetzer. Gardner, Eugene Simon. Gibraltar, J. A. Smith. Jacksonport, David Shampo. Liberty Grove, S. A. Rogers. Nasewaupée, James Cunningham. Sevastopol, George Beyer. Sturgeon Bay, Kearn Bowe. Union, J. B. Delwiche. Washington, V. S. Garrett. Sturgeon Bay City, First Ward, *George Nelson*; Second Ward, C. Leonhardt; Third Ward, W. A. Lawrence.

1889—Baileys Harbor, J. E. Stephan. Brussels, William Moore. Clay Banks, C. L. Fellows. Egg Harbor, Frank Wellever. Forestville, John Fetzer. Gardner, Eugene Simon. Gibraltar, C. McSweeney. Jacksonport, David Shampo. Liberty Grove, S. A. Rogers. Nasewaupée, John Mullane. Sevastopol, George Beyer. Sturgeon Bay, Kearn Bowe. Union, N. J. Delfosse. Washington, V. S. Garrett. Sturgeon Bay City, First Ward, *George Nelson*; Second Ward, C. Goettelman; Third Ward, W. A. Lawrence.

1890—Baileys Harbor, J. E. Stephan. Brussels, Louis Bassine. Clay Banks, C. L. Fellows. Egg Harbor, Frank Wellever. Forestville, John Fetzer. Gardner, Clem Killman. Gibraltar, C. McSweeney. Jacksonport, Thomas Reynolds. Liberty Grove, Hans Johnson. Nasewaupée, John Mullane. Sevastopol, George Bassford. Sturgeon Bay, Kearn Bowe. Union, N. J. Delfosse. Washington, George Lycke. Sturgeon Bay City, First Ward, *George Nelson*; Second Ward, J. Colignon; Third Ward, John Masse.

1891—Baileys Harbor, Roger Eatough. Brussels, Louis Bassine. Clay Banks, C. L. Fellows. Egg Harbor, Frank Wellever. Forestville, John Fetzer. Gardner, Eugene Simon. Gibraltar, C. McSweeney. Jacksonport, Thomas Reynolds. Liberty Grove, Hans Johnson. Nasewaupée, James Cunningham. Sevastopol, G. W. Bassford. Sturgeon Bay, Kearn Bowe. Union, N. J. Delfosse. Washington, George Lycke. Sturgeon Bay City, First Ward, *George Nelson*; Second Ward, A. D. Thorp; Third Ward, E. S. Minor; Fourth Ward, Charles Wulf.

1892—Baileys Harbor, Roger Eatough. Brussels, Louis Bassine. Clay Banks, C. L. Fellows. Egg Harbor, Frank Wellever. Forestville, John Fetzer. Gardner, Eugene Simon. Gibraltar, James Hanson. Jacksonport, David Shampo. Liberty Grove, A. S. Beyer. Nasewaupée, James Cunningham. Sevastopol, George Bassford. Sturgeon Bay, Kearn Bowe. Union, N. J. Delfosse. Washington, George Lycke. Sturgeon Bay City, First Ward, *George Nelson*; Second Ward, A. D. Thorp; Third Ward, E. S. Minor; Fourth Ward, John Roth.

1893—Baileys Harbor, Roger Eatough. Brussels, Louis Bassine. Clay Banks, C. L. Fellows. Egg Harbor, Frank Wellever. Forestville, J. Bernhardt. Gardner, Eugene Simon. Gibraltar, James Hanson. Jacksonport, Henry Anschutz. Liberty Grove, A. Wiltse. Nasewaupée, Edward Kenny. Sevastopol, George Bassford. Sturgeon Bay, Kearn Bowe. Union, N. J. Delfosse. Washington, George Lycke. Sturgeon Bay City, First Ward, *George Nelson*; Second Ward, C. Leonhardt; Third Ward, E. S. Minor; Fourth Ward, J. M. Koch.

1894—Baileys Harbor, Roger Eatough. Brussels, D. E. Englebert. Clay Banks, C. L. Fellows. Egg Harbor, Frank Wellever. Forestville, J. Bernhardt. Gardner, James Dalemont. Gibraltar, James Hanson. Jacksonport, Henry Anschutz. Liberty Grove, A. Wiltse. Nas-

waupee, Edward Kenny. Sevastopol, George Bassford. Sturgeon Bay, Kearn Bowe. Union, J. B. Collard. Washington, George Lycke. Sturgeon Bay City, First Ward, *George Nelson*; Second Ward, L. M. Washburn; Third Ward, Alex Meikle; Fourth Ward, J. M. Koch.

1895—Baileys Harbor, H. G. Spring. Brussels, D. E. Englebert. Clay Banks, James Madden. Egg Harbor, Eugene Cordier. Forestville, J. Bernhardt. Gardner, J. G. Dalemont. Gibraltar, L. L. Hill. Jacksonport, Henry Anschutz. Liberty Grove, Andrew Nelson. Nasewaupee, Edward Kenny. Sevastopol, George Bassford. Sturgeon Bay, Kearn Bowe. Union, J. B. Collard. Washington, L. P. Ottosen. Sturgeon Bay City, First Ward, *George Nelson*; Second Ward, L. M. Washburn; Third Ward, Alex Meikle; Fourth Ward, J. M. Koch.

1896—Baileys Harbor, J. B. N. Lallemond. Brussels, D. E. Englebert. Clay Banks, James Madden. Egg Harbor, Eugene Cordier. Forestville, J. Bernhardt. Gardner, J. G. Dalemont. Gibraltar, James Hanson. Jacksonport, Thomas Reynolds. Liberty Grove, Andrew Nelson. Nasewaupee, Edward Kenny. Sevastopol, H. Adamson. Sturgeon Bay, Kearn Bowe. Union, J. B. Collard. Washington, L. P. Ottosen. Sturgeon Bay City, First Ward, *George Nelson*; Second Ward, C. Leonhardt; Third Ward, M. Knudson; Fourth Ward, E. N. Anderson.

1897—Baileys Harbor, J. B. N. Lallemond. Brussels, D. E. Englebert. Clay Banks, James Madden. Egg Harbor, Frank Wellever. Forestville, J. Bernhardt. Gardner, L. Henquenot. Gibraltar, James Hanson. Jacksonport, Thomas Reynolds. Liberty Grove, Andrew Nelson. Nasewaupee, James Cunningham. Sevastopol, George Bassford. Sturgeon Bay, Kearn Bowe. Union, J. B. Collard. Washington, L. P. Ottosen. Sturgeon Bay City, First Ward, *George Nelson*; Second Ward, C. Leonhardt; Third Ward, J. F. Stroh; Fourth Ward, A. J. Schuyler.

1898—Baileys Harbor, J. B. N. Lallemond. Brussels, Louis Bassine. Clay Banks, C. L. Fellows. Egg Harbor, C. O. Guenther. Forestville, J. Bernhardt. Gardner, L. Henquenot. Gibraltar, \*Martin Schram. Jacksonport, Thomas Reynolds. Liberty Grove, Andrew Nelson. Nasewaupee, Frank Feest. Sevastopol, George Bassford. Sturgeon Bay, Kearn Bowe. Union, J. B. Collard. Washington, William Jess. Sturgeon Bay City, First Ward, *George Nelson*; Second Ward, C. Leonhardt; Third Ward, J. F. Stroh; Fourth Ward, E. N. Anderson.

1899—Baileys Harbor, Roger Eatough. Brussels, Louis Bassine. Clay Banks, James Madden. Egg Harbor, Frank Wellever. Forestville, J. Bernhardt. Gardner, John Peltier. Gibraltar, J. A. Smith. Jacksonport, Thomas Reynolds. Liberty Grove, Andrew Nelson. Nasewaupee, Frank Feest. Sevastopol, Nic Moeller. Sturgeon Bay, Kearn Bowe. Union, N. J. Delfosse. Washington, William Jess. Sturgeon Bay City, First Ward, *George Nelson*; Second Ward, C. Leonhardt; Third Ward, Alex Meikle; Fourth Ward, Joseph Hoslett.

1900—Baileys Harbor, Roger Eatough. Brussels, Louis Bassine. Clay Banks, C. L. Fellows. Egg Harbor, Frank Wellever. Forestville, J. Bernhardt. Gardner, John Peltier. Gibraltar, J. A. Smith. Jacksonport, M. Jonas. Liberty Grove, Andrew Nelson. Nasewaupee, Frank Feest. Sevastopol, Nic Moeller. Sturgeon Bay, Kearn Bowe. Union, N. J. Delfosse. Washington, William Jess. Sturgeon Bay City, First Ward, L. D. Mowry; Second Ward, C. Leonhardt; Third Ward, Alex Meikle; Fourth Ward, Joseph Hoslett.

1901—Baileys Harbor, Roger Eatough. Brussels, Louis Bassine. Clay Banks, James Madden. Egg Harbor, Frank Wellever. Forestville, Wm. Gomoll. Gardner, John Peltier. Gibraltar, J. A. Smith. Jacksonport, M. Jonas. Liberty Grove, Andrew Nelson. Nasewaupee, Frank Feest. Sevastopol, Nic Moeller. Sturgeon Bay, Kearn Bowe. Union, N. J. Delfosse. Washington, Wm. Jess. Sturgeon Bay, First Ward, W. A. Sanderson; Second Ward, *H. Overbeck, Jr.*; Third Ward, Alex Meikle; Fourth Ward, Jos. Hoslett.

1902—Baileys Harbor, Roger Eatough. Brussels, D. E. Englebert. Clay Banks, James Madden. Egg Harbor, Frank Wellever. Forestville, Wm. Gomoll. Gardner, John Peltier. Gibraltar, James Hanson. Jacksonport, Thos. Reynolds. Liberty Grove, S. A. Rogers. Nasewaupee, Frank Feest. Sevastopol, Nic Moeller. Sturgeon Bay, D. D. Spalsbury. Union, N. J. Delfosse. Washington, Wm. Jess. Sturgeon Bay, First Ward, W. A. Sanderson; Second Ward, *C. A. Masse*; Third Ward, Alex. Meikle; Fourth Ward, Geo. Walker.

1903—Baileys Harbor, Roger Eatough. Brussels, Emil Miller. Clay Banks, James Madden. Egg Harbor, Frank Wellever. Forestville, Wm. Gomoll. Gardner, John Peltier. Gibraltar, James Hanson. Jacksonport, David Shampo. Liberty Grove, S. A. Rogers. Nase-

\*Served on the county board instead of the chairman, Roy Thorp.

waupee, Frank Feest. Sevastopol, Nic Moeller. Sturgeon Bay, D. D. Spalsbury. Union, N. J. Delfosse. Washington, Wm. Jess. Sturgeon Bay, First Ward, W. A. Sanderson; Second Ward, C. A. Masse; Third Ward, Alex. Meikle; Fourth Ward, Geo. Walker.

1904—Baileys Harbor, Roger Eatough. Brussels, Emil Miller. Clay Banks, James Madden. Egg Harbor, Frank Wellever. Forestville, Wm. Gomoll. Gardner, John Peltier. Gibraltar, James Hanson. Jacksonport, Joseph Smith. Liberty Grove, A. Hogenson. Nasewaupee, Frank Feest. Sevastopol, John Laurie. Sturgeon Bay, D. D. Spalsbury. Union, N. J. Delfosse. Washington, Wm. Jess. Sturgeon Bay, First Ward, W. A. Sanderson; Second Ward, C. A. Masse; Third Ward, Alex. Meikle; Fourth Ward, Geo. Walker.

1905—Baileys Harbor, Roger Eatough. Brussels, Emil Miller. Clay Banks, James Madden. Egg Harbor, Peter Monica. Forestville, Frank Moeller. Gardner, John Peltier. Gibraltar, James Hanson. Jacksonport, Joseph Smith. Liberty Grove, S. A. Rogers. Nasewaupee, Frank Feest. Sevastopol, John Laurie. Sturgeon Bay, August Simpson. Union, N. J. Delfosse. Washington, Wm. Jess. Sturgeon Bay, First Ward, W. A. Sanderson; Second Ward, C. A. Masse; Third Ward, Alex. Meikle; Fourth Ward, Geo. Walker.

1906—Baileys Harbor, Roger Eatough. Brussels, Emil Miller. Clay Banks, James Madden. Egg Harbor, Frank Wellever. Forestville, Chas. Plinske. Gardner, John Peltier. Gibraltar, James Hanson. Jacksonport, Joseph Smith. Liberty Grove, Jay W. Rogers. Nasewaupee, Frank Feest. Sevastopol, John Laurie. Sturgeon Bay, August Simpson. Union, N. J. Delfosse. Washington, Wm. Jess. Sturgeon Bay City, First Ward, W. A. Sanderson; Second Ward, C. Leonhardt; Third Ward, Alex. Meikle; Fourth Ward, Geo. Walker.

1907—Baileys Harbor, Roger Eatough. Brussels, Emil Miller. Clay Banks, C. L. Fellows. Egg Harbor, Frank Wellever. Forestville, Chas. Plinske. Gardner, Eugene Simon. Gibraltar, James Hanson. Jacksonport, Joseph Smith. Liberty Grove, Jay W. Rogers. Nasewaupee, Frank Feest. Sevastopol, John Laurie. Sturgeon Bay, August Simpson. Union, N. J. Delfosse. Washington, Wm. Jess. Sturgeon Bay City, First Ward, H. O. Bernhardt; Second Ward, H. A. Stiles; Third Ward, Fred Schuyler; Fourth Ward, J. J. Neuville.

1908—Baileys Harbor, Roger Eatough. Brussels, Emil Miller. Clay Banks, C. L. Fellows. Egg Harbor, Frank Wellever. Forestville, Chas. Plinske. Gardner, Eugene Simon. Gibraltar, E. C. Thorp. Jacksonport, Joseph Smith. Liberty Grove, Jay W. Rogers. Nasewaupee, Frank Feest. Sevastopol, Louis Klenke. Sturgeon Bay, August Simpson. Union, N. J. Delfosse. Washington, Wm. Jess. Sturgeon Bay City, First Ward, J. Bernhardt; Second Ward, H. A. Stiles; Third Ward, Fred Schuyler; Fourth Ward, J. J. Neuville.

1909—Baileys Harbor, Roger Eatough. Brussels, Emil Miller. Clay Banks, L. L. Johnson. Egg Harbor, Frank Wellever. Forestville, Wm. Gomoll. Gardner, Eugene Simon. Gibraltar, E. C. Thorp. Jacksonport, Math. Pepper. Liberty Grove, Jay W. Rogers. Nasewaupee, Edw. Kenny. Sevastopol, Louis Klenke. Sturgeon Bay, August Simpson. Union, N. J. Delfosse. Washington, Wm. Jess. Sturgeon Bay City, First Ward, J. Bernhardt; Second Ward, H. A. Stiles; Third Ward, Fred Schuyler; Fourth Ward, Joseph Hoslett.

1910—Baileys Harbor, Roger Eatough. Brussels, Emil Miller. Clay Banks, L. L. Johnson. Egg Harbor, Frank Wellever. Forestville, Wm. Gomoll. Gardner, J. G. Dalemont. Gibraltar, E. C. Thorp. Jacksonport, Math. Pepper. Liberty Grove, Jay W. Rogers. Nasewaupee, Edw. Kenny. Sevastopol, Louis Klenke. Sturgeon Bay, August Simpson. Union, Frank Alexander. Washington, Wm. Jess. Sturgeon Bay City, First Ward, J. Bernhardt; Second Ward, Math. Cochems; Third Ward, Fred Schuyler; Fourth Ward, Joseph Hoslett.

1911—Baileys Harbor, Roger Eatough. Brussels, Emil Miller. Clay Banks, L. L. Johnson. Egg Harbor, Frank Wellever. Forestville, John Sloan. Gardner, J. G. Dalemont. Gibraltar, E. C. Thorp. Jacksonport, M. Pepper. Liberty Grove, J. W. Rogers. Nasewaupee, Edw. Kenny. Sevastopol, F. B. Simon. Sturgeon Bay, Aug. Simpson. Union, F. Alexander. Washington, Wm. Jess. Sturgeon Bay City, First Ward, J. Bernhardt; Second Ward, H. J. Hahn; Third Ward, H. A. Wagener; Fourth Ward, Jos. Hoslett.

1912—Baileys Harbor, Roger Eatough. Brussels, Emil Miller. Clay Banks, F. McDermott. Egg Harbor, J. Bertschinger. Forestville, John Sloan. Gardner, J. G. Dalemont. Gibraltar, E. C. Thorp. Jacksonport, Math. Pepper. Liberty Grove, J. W. Rogers. Nasewaupee, G. O. Whitford. Sevastopol, Chas. Zill. Sturgeon Bay, Aug. Simpson. Union, N. J. Delfosse. Washington, Volney Koyen. Sturgeon Bay, First Ward, J. Bernhardt; Second Ward, H. J. Hahn; Third Ward, H. A. Wagener; Fourth Ward, Jos. Hoslett. Sister Bay, H. Starr.

1913—Baileys Harbor, *Roger Eatough*. Brussels, Geo. Ahlswede. Clay Banks, F. McDermott. Egg Harbor, Edw. Roscoe. Forestville, John Sloan. Gardner, J. G. Dalemont. Gibraltar, E. C. Thorp. Jacksonport, M. Pepper. Liberty Grove, Albert Schultz. Nasewaupée, G. O. Whitford. Sevastopol, Chas. Zill. Sturgeon Bay, Aug. Simpson. Union, N. J. Delfosse. Washington, Bo L. Anderson. Sturgeon Bay, First Ward, Nic Moeller; Second Ward, H. J. Hahn; Third Ward, A. A. Minor; Fourth Ward, Jos. Hoslett. Sister Bay, H. Starr.

1914—Baileys Harbor, Wm. Oldenburg. Brussels, Geo. Ahlswede. Clay Banks, Henry Sorenson. Egg Harbor, Edw. Roscoe. Forestville, Chas. Plinske. Gardner, J. G. Dalemont. Gibraltar, E. C. Thorp. Jacksonport, M. Pepper. Liberty Grove, J. W. Rogers. Nasewaupée, G. O. Whitford. Sevastopol, P. Mahaney. Sturgeon Bay, Jacob Miller. Union, Geo. DeKeyser. Washington, Bo L. Anderson. Sturgeon Bay, First Ward, C. M. Stephenson; Second Ward, H. J. Hahn; Third Ward, A. A. Minor; Fourth Ward, *Jos. Hoslett*. Sister Bay, H. Starr.

1915—Baileys Harbor, Wm. Oldenburg. Brussels, Geo. Ahlswede. Clay Banks, F. McDermott. Egg Harbor, Edw. Roscoe. Forestville, Chas. Plinske. Gardner, J. G. Dalemont. Gibraltar, H. R. Holand. Jacksonport, M. Pepper. Liberty Grove, J. W. Rogers. Nasewaupée, G. O. Whitford. Sevastopol, P. Mahaney. Sturgeon Bay, Jacob Miller. Union, Geo. DeKeyser. Washington, Bo L. Anderson. Sturgeon Bay, First Ward, Geo. Roberts; Second Ward, H. J. Hahn; Third Ward, A. A. Minor; Fourth Ward, *Jos. Hoslett*. Sister Bay, H. Starr.

1916—Baileys Harbor, Wm. Oldenburg. Brussels, Geo. Ahlswede. Clay Banks, Henry Sorenson. Egg Harbor, Edw. Roscoe. Forestville, Chas. Plinske. Gardner, J. G. Dalemont. Gibraltar, H. R. Holand. Jacksonport, M. Pepper. Liberty Grove, J. W. Rogers. Nasewaupée, G. O. Whitford. Sevastopol, A. Birmingham. Sturgeon Bay, Jacob Miller. Union, Geo. DeKeyser. Washington, Bo L. Anderson. Sturgeon Bay, First Ward, Edward Acker; Second Ward, H. J. Hahn; Third Ward, A. A. Minor; Fourth Ward, *Jos. Hoslett*. Sister Bay, H. Starr.

1917—Baileys Harbor, Wm. Tofts. Brussels, Geo. Ahlswede. Clay Banks, Henry Sorenson. Egg Harbor, Edw. Roscoe. Forestville, John Sloan. Gardner, J. G. Dalemont. Gibraltar, H. R. Holand. Jacksonport, M. Pepper. Liberty Grove, J. W. Rogers. Nasewaupée, G. O. Whitford. Sevastopol, P. Mahaney. Sturgeon Bay, Jacob Miller. Union, Geo. DeKeyser. Washington, Bo L. Anderson. Sturgeon Bay, First Ward, Harry Green; Second Ward, H. J. Hahn; Third Ward, A. A. Minor; Fourth Ward, *Jos. Hoslett*. Sister Bay, F. Lagerquist.

#### MEMBERS OF THE STATE ASSEMBLY

Below is given a list of all members in the legislative assembly representing Door County beginning with the year 1851 when Door County was organized. Until 1876 Door County was a part of an assembly district including several other counties. Although Door County is very largely an agricultural county, it has been represented by farmers in only two legislatures. The other members of the assembly from Door County may be classified as follows: Merchants, 9; attorneys, 6; bankers, 3; millers, 2; hotelkeepers, 2; insurance agents, 2; teachers, 2; cheesemaker, 1; dealer in seeds, 1.

Fifth session, 1852. Uriel Peak, Green Bay.

Sixth session, 1853. Randall Wilcox, De Pere.

Seventh session, 1854. Frank Desnoyer, Green Bay.

Eighth session, 1855. Morgan L. Martin, Green Bay.

Ninth session, 1856. John Day, Green Bay.

Tenth session, 1857. Ezra B. Stevens, Sturgeon Bay.

Eleventh session, 1858. Jonathan C. Hall, Marinette.

Twelfth session, 1859. Matthias Simon, Ahnapee.

Thirteenth session, 1860. John Wiley, Shawano.

Fourteenth session, 1861. Wm. S. Finley, Kewaunee.

Fifteenth session, 1862. Ezra B. Stevens, Sturgeon Bay.

Sixteenth session, 1863. George C. Ginty, Oconto.

Seventeenth session, 1864. Hermann Naber, Shawano.

Eighteenth session, 1865. Dennis A. Reed, Sturgeon Bay.

Nineteenth session, 1866. Isaac Stephenson, Marinette.

Twentieth session, 1867. David Youngs, Ahnapee.

Twenty-first session, 1868. Moses Kilgore, Baileys Harbor.

Twenty-second session, 1869. John R. McDonald, Ahnapee.

Twenty-third session, 1870. Charles L. Harris, Jacksonport.

Twenty-fourth session, 1871. Joseph McCormick, Ahnapee.

Twenty-fifth session, 1872. Gideon W. Allen, Sturgeon Bay.

Twenty-sixth session, 1873. De Wayne Stebbins, Ahnapee.

Twenty-seventh session, 1874. D. A. Reed, Sturgeon Bay.  
**Attorney. Came to Sturgeon Bay in 1860.**

Twenty-eighth session, 1875. Charles Scofield, Red River. Lumberman. Came to Door County in 1868. Born in New York State.

Twenty-ninth session, 1876. Leroy M. Washburn, Sturgeon Bay. Merchant. Came to Door County in 1870. Born in Maine, 1847.

Thirtieth session, 1877. Jarvis T. Wright, Sturgeon Bay. Hotel-keeper. Came to Door County, 1855. Born in New York, 1830.

Thirty-first session, 1878. Edward S. Minor, Fish Creek. Merchant. Came to Door County in 1857. Born in New York, 1840. Was first lieutenant in union army.

Thirty-second session, 1879. Charles August Masse (republican), Sturgeon Bay. Merchant. Native of Holland. Forty years of age. Twenty-eight years in state.

Thirty-third session, 1880. Edward S. Minor (republican), Fish Creek.

Thirty-fourth session, 1881. Edward S. Minor, Fish Creek.

Thirty-fifth session, 1882. Adelbert C. Thorpe (republican), Sturgeon Bay. Farmer. Native of New York. Thirty-eight years of age. Came to Wisconsin in 1848.

Thirty-sixth session, 1883. Christopher Leonhardt (republican), Sturgeon Bay. Hotelkeeper. Native of Germany. Forty-five years of age. Came to Wisconsin in 1843.

Thirty-seventh session, 1885. John Fetzer (democrat), Forest-

ville. Merchant and miller. Native of Germany. Forty-four years of age. Came to Wisconsin in 1850. Soldier in Civil war.

Thirty-eighth session, 1887. Gustaf A. Dreutzer (republican), Sturgeon Bay. Merchant. Native of Wisconsin. Thirty-four years of age.

Thirty-ninth session, 1889. Hans Johnson (republican), Newport. Merchant. Native of Denmark. Forty-three years of age. Came to Wisconsin in 1869.

Fortieth session, 1891. Charles Mitchell Whiteside (democrat), Sawyer. Miller. Native of Ohio. Thirty-seven years of age. Came to Wisconsin in 1880.

Forty-first session, 1893. James Keogh (republican), Sturgeon Bay. Mayor of city and banker. Native of Ireland. Forty-three years of age. Came to Wisconsin in 1855.

Forty-second session, 1895. James Hanson (republican), Ephraim. Merchant. Native of Norway. Forty-three years of age. Came to Wisconsin in 1854.

Forty-third session, 1897. Henry Overbeck, Jr. (republican), Sturgeon Bay. Telegraph operator and insurance agent. Native of New York. Forty-four years of age. Came to Wisconsin in 1854.

Forty-fourth session, 1899. Henry Overbeck, Sturgeon Bay.

Forty-fifth session, 1901. Henry Overbeck, Sturgeon Bay.

Forty-sixth session, 1903. Charles Reynolds (republican), Sturgeon Bay. Lumber and real estate. Native of Ireland. Sixty-four years of age. Came to Wisconsin in 1860. Was assistant adjutant-general in Civil war.

Forty-seventh session, 1905. Charles Reynolds, Sturgeon Bay.

Forty-eighth session, 1907. Thomas Reynolds (republican), Jacksonport. Farmer. Native of Ireland. Sixty-seven years of age. Came to Wisconsin in 1866.

Forty-ninth session, 1909. Thomas Reynolds, Jacksonport.

Fiftieth session, 1911. Lewis L. Johnson (republican), Clay Banks. Schoolteacher and lawyer. Native of Kewaunee County. Thirty-one years of age.

Fifty-first session, 1913. Lewis L. Johnson, Clay Banks.

Fifty-second session, 1915. Fred S. Hanson (republican), Sturgeon Bay. Cheesemaker. Native of Denmark. Fifty years of age. Came to Wisconsin in 1893.

Fifty-third session, 1917. Frank N. Graass (republican), Sturgeon Bay. Native of Door County. Dealer in seeds.



STATE SENATORS FROM THE DISTRICT OF WHICH DOOR COUNTY WAS A  
PART, THE NUMBER OF THE DISTRICT, THE COUNTIES COMPOSING  
THE DISTRICT AND YEAR

1856-7, District No. 2, Brown, Outagamie, Door, Kewaunee, Oconto and Shawanaw. Perry H. Smith, Appleton. 1858-9, Morgan L. Martin, Green Bay. 1860-1, Edward Decker, Kewaunee.

1862-3, District No. 22, Outagamie, Shawanaw, Oconto and Door. Thos. R. Hudd, Appleton. 1864-5, Joseph Harris, Sturgeon Bay.<sup>1</sup>

1868-7, Aug. L. Smith, Appleton.

1868-9, District No. 2, Brown, Kewaunee and Door. Wm. J. Abrams, Green Bay. 1870-1, Lyman Walker, Ahnapee. 1872-3, M. P. Linsley, Green Bay. 1874-5, John M. Reed, Kewaunee. 1876, Thos R. Hudd, Green Bay.

1877-8, District No. 1, Door, Kewaunee, Oconto and Shawano. George Grimmer, Kewaunee.

1879-80, District No. 1, Door, Kewaunee, Oconto, Marinette and Shawano. Geo. Grimmer, Kewaunee.

1881-2, District No. 1, Door, Kewaunee, Langlade, Oconto, Marinette and Shawano. Wm. A. Ellis, Peshtigo.

1883-5, District No. 1, Door, Kewaunee, Langlade, Florence, Oconto and Marinette. E. S. Minor, Sturgeon Bay.

1887-9, District No. 1, Door, Marinette and Oconto. Edward Scofield, Oconto. 1891-3, John Fetzer, Forestville.

1895-7, District No. 1, Door, Marinette and Kewaunee. De Wayne Stebbins, Ahnapee. 1899 and 1901, De Wayne Stebbins, Ahnapee. 1903-5-7-9, Harlan P. Bird, Wausaukee. 1911-3-5-7, M. W. Perry, Algoma.

Door County has had only one representative in Congress. Hon. E. S. Minor of Sturgeon Bay was elected to the fifty-fourth Congress in 1895. He was re-elected five times, serving until 1907. Door County has always been a very strong republican county. In 1884 when there was quite a landslide to the democratic party, the democratic vote was the largest in proportion to the total. Even then it was only a little more than one-third of the total vote, Blaine receiving 1,838 and Cleveland receiving 1,117.

LIST OF SALARIED COUNTY OFFICERS FROM 1856 TO 1917

1856—Jos. Harris, Sr., county clerk; Robt. Graham, treasurer; Joe Harris, Sr., register of deeds; A. M. Iverson, county superintendent of schools; Henry Schuyler, surveyor.

<sup>1</sup> For an amusing incident in connection with the nomination of Mr. Harris see McCord's reminiscence in the chapter on newspapers.

1858—Henry Avery, county clerk; Robt. Graham, treasurer; Joe Harris, Sr., register of deeds; L. H. D. Sheppard, surveyor; J. B. A. Maples, clerk of court; Lorenzo Brown, sheriff; J. F. Loy, district attorney.

1860—Wm. K. Dresser, county clerk; Joe Harris, Sr., treasurer; John Garland, register of deeds; Wm. K. Warren, surveyor; D. C. McIntosh, clerk of court; E. P. Battersill, sheriff; D. A. Reed, district attorney.

1862—Wm. K. Dresser, county clerk; Joe Harris, Sr., treasurer; J. F. Gilson, register of deeds; Henry Schuyler, surveyor; M. E. Lyman, county judge; M. E. Lyman, clerk of court; J. E. Thorp, sheriff; Soren Peterson, district attorney.

1864—John Garland, county clerk; Joe Harris, treasurer; Jos. Colignon, register of deeds; M. E. Lyman, county superintendent of schools; Wm. K. Warren, surveyor; M. E. Lyman, county judge; Wm. K. Dresser, clerk of court; J. P. Simon, sheriff; D. A. Reed, district attorney.

1866—John Garland, county clerk; Joe Harris, treasurer; Jos. Colignon, register of deeds; Wm. H. Warren, county superintendent of schools; Wm. K. Warren, surveyor; D. H. Rice, county judge; Jno. McKinney, clerk of court; Jesse Kimber, sheriff; D. A. Reed, district attorney.

1868—John Garland, county clerk; Joe Colignon, treasurer; Peter Zinners, register of deeds; R. M. Wright, county superintendent of schools; J. C. Pinney, surveyor; D. H. Rice, county judge; Henry Harris, clerk of court; J. R. Mann, sheriff; Wm. K. Dresser, district attorney.

1870—C. A. Masse, county clerk; Joe Colignon, treasurer; Peter Zinners, register of deeds; R. M. Wright, county superintendent of schools; J. C. Pinney, surveyor; R. M. Wright, county judge; Henry Harris, clerk of court; J. P. Simon, sheriff; G. W. Allen, district attorney.

1872—C. A. Masse, county clerk; Joe Colignon, treasurer; Peter Zinners, register of deeds; Chris. Daniels, county superintendent of schools; J. C. Pinney, surveyor; R. M. Wright, county judge; Chris. Daniels, clerk of court; David Houle, sheriff; D. A. Reed, district attorney.

1874—C. A. Masse, county clerk; Chris. Leonhardt, treasurer; Jas. Keogh, Jr., register of deeds; Chris. Daniels, county superintendent of schools; Henry Schuyler, surveyor; R. M. Wright, county

judge; Chris. Daniels, clerk of court; Wm. Wagener, sheriff; O. E. Dreutzer, district attorney.

1876—A. D. Thorpe, county clerk; C. A. Masse, treasurer; Jas. Keogh, Jr., register of deeds; Chris. Daniels, county superintendent of schools; W. H. Warren, surveyor; R. M. Wright, county judge; Chris. Daniels, clerk of court; David Houle, sheriff; D. A. Reed, district attorney.

1878—A. D. Thorpe, county clerk; Chris. Leonhardt, treasurer; Jas. Keogh, Jr., register of deeds; Jas. Keogh, Jr., county superintendent of schools; Jas. Pinney, surveyor; R. M. Wright, county judge; C. A. Masse, clerk of court; Thos. Scott, sheriff; G. W. Allen, district attorney.

1880—Geo. Nelson, county clerk; Chris. Leonhardt, treasurer; Jas. Keogh, Jr., register of deeds; Chris. Daniels, county superintendent of schools; A. G. Warren, surveyor; R. M. Wright, county judge; H. C. Graham, clerk of court; Arnold Wagener, sheriff; G. W. Allen, district attorney.

1882—C. A. Masse, county clerk; Eli Thompson, treasurer; Jas. Keogh, Jr., register of deeds; C. M. Smith, county superintendent of schools; A. G. Warren, surveyor; F. J. Hamilton, county judge; Allen Higgins, clerk of court; Thos. Scott, sheriff; O. E. Dreutzer, district attorney; E. C. Daniels, coroner.

1884—Mich. McDonald, county clerk; Eli Thompson, treasurer; Jas. Keogh, Jr., register of deeds; J. W. Kinsell, county superintendent of schools; J. C. Pinney, surveyor; F. J. Hamilton, county judge; Allen Higgins, clerk of court; Thos. Scott, sheriff; O. E. Dreutzer, district attorney; Mart. Hayes, coroner.

1886—Mich. McDonald, county clerk; Eli Thompson, treasurer; Jas. Keogh, Jr., register of deeds; J. W. Kinsell, county superintendent of schools; J. C. Pinney, surveyor; H. M. McNally, county judge; Allen Higgins, clerk of court; Thos. Scott, sheriff; R. P. Cody, district attorney; Mart. Hayes, coroner.

1888—L. L. Bacchus, county clerk; Eli Thompson, treasurer; Jacob Dehos, register of deeds; W. L. Damkoehler, county superintendent of schools; C. O. Guenther, surveyor; F. J. Hamilton, county judge; Allen Higgins, clerk of court; Arnold Wagener, sheriff; R. P. Cody, district attorney; Alex Lawson, coroner.

1890—Clem Killman, county clerk; L. D. Mowry, treasurer; Jacob Dehos, register of deeds; W. L. Damkoehler, county superintendent of schools; C. O. Guenther, surveyor; C. A. Masse, county

judge; Allen Higgins, clerk of court; Arnold Wagener, sheriff; Y. V. Dreutzer, district attorney; David Houle, coroner.

1892—Clem Killman, county clerk; L. D. Mowry, treasurer; Jacob Dehos, register of deeds; W. L. Damkoehler, county superintendent of schools; A. G. Warren, surveyor; C. A. Masse, county judge; Allen Higgins, clerk of court; Adelbert Thorpe, sheriff; Y. V. Dreutzer, district attorney; Hercules Adamson, coroner.

1894—L. D. Mowry, county clerk; Adelbert Thorpe, treasurer; Nicholas Nelson, register of deeds; W. L. Damkoehler, county superintendent of schools; A. G. Warren, surveyor; C. A. Masse, county judge; Allen Higgins, clerk of court; Clem Killman, sheriff; Y. V. Dreutzer, district attorney; Wm. Jackson, coroner.

1896—Jas. L. Halstead, county clerk; Jos. G. Dalemont, treasurer; Nicholas Nelson, register of deeds; Wm. T. Anderson, county superintendent of schools; F. R. Stradling, surveyor; C. A. Masse, county judge; Allen Higgins, clerk of court; A. A. Minor, sheriff; Y. V. Dreutzer, district attorney; Alex Lawson, coroner.

1898—Jas. L. Halstead, county clerk; Jos. G. Dalemont, treasurer; Nicholas Nelson, register of deeds; Wm. T. Anderson, county superintendent of schools; C. O. Guenther, surveyor; C. A. Masse, county judge; Allen Higgins, clerk of court; Edson W. Washburn, sheriff; Y. V. Dreutzer, district attorney; Alex Lawson, coroner.

1900—Jas. L. Halstead, county clerk; Chas. Plinske, treasurer; Nicholas Nelson, register of deeds; Wm. T. Anderson, county superintendent of schools; Frank McCullough, surveyor; C. A. Masse, county judge; Allen Higgins, clerk of court; A. A. Minor, sheriff; Y. V. Dreutzer, district attorney; Wm. Walker, coroner.

1902—Jas. L. Halstead, county clerk; Chas. Plinske, treasurer; Andrew Nelson, register of deeds; J. A. Eichinger, county superintendent of schools; Frank McCullough, surveyor; Jacob Dehos, county judge; Allen Higgins, clerk of court; Herman Fritzler, sheriff; Y. V. Dreutzer, district attorney; Phillip Riley, coroner.

1904—Jas. L. Halstead, county clerk; Jos. G. Dalemont, treasurer; Andrew Nelson, register of deeds; J. A. Eichinger, county superintendent of schools; Frank McCullough, surveyor; Jacob Dehos, county judge; Allen Higgins, clerk of court; A. A. Minor, sheriff; Y. V. Dreutzer, district attorney; Wm. Darling, coroner.

1906—Jas. L. Halstead, county clerk; Jos. G. Dalemont, treasurer; Andrew Nelson, register of deeds; A. J. Smith, county superintendent of schools; Frank Marshek, surveyor; Jacob Dehos, county

judge; Allen Higgins, clerk of court; Benj. Miller, sheriff; Henry Graass, district attorney; Wm. Darling, coroner.

1908—Jas. L. Halstead, county clerk; Chas. Plinske, treasurer; Andrew Nelson, register of deeds; A. J. Smith, county superintendent of schools; A. C. Greaves, surveyor; Jacob Dehos, county judge; Allen Higgins, clerk of court; H. A. Wagener, sheriff; Henry Graass, district attorney; Wm. Darling, coroner.

1910—E. M. La Plant, county clerk; Chas. Plinske, treasurer; Otto Nelson, register of deeds; G. A. Bassford, county superintendent of schools; A. C. Greaves, surveyor; Jacob Dehos, county judge; Allen Higgins, clerk of court; Al. Osmuson, sheriff; Henry Graass, district attorney; Henry Hahn, coroner.

1912—E. M. La Plant, county clerk; Emil Miller, treasurer; Otto Nelson, register of deeds; G. A. Bassford, county superintendent of schools; Jos. Bouche, surveyor; Jacob Dehos, county judge; Frank Wellever, clerk of court; Ben Miller, sheriff; Henry Graass, district attorney; Henry Hahn, coroner.

1914—Ralph Herlache, county clerk; Emil Miller, treasurer; Otto Nelson, register of deeds; Millard Tufts, county superintendent of schools; Rich. Rasmusson, surveyor; Jacob Dehos, county judge; Frank Wellever, clerk of court; Al. Osmuson, sheriff; T. A. Sanderson, district attorney; Henry Hahn, coroner.

1916—Ralph Herlache, county clerk; Emil Miller, treasurer; Bert Carmody, register of deeds; Millard Tufts, county superintendent of schools; Rich. Rasmusson, surveyor; Jacob Dehos, county judge; Frank Wellever, clerk of court; Eli Stegman, sheriff; W. E. Gaede, district attorney; Henry Hahn, coroner.

## CHAPTER XIV

### ASSESSMENTS AND TAXES

In the following pages are some columns of figures which will prove of interest to the reader. They contain the assessed valuation of every town and assessment district in Door County, as equalized by the annual county boards, from 1862 to 1916. Step by step it records in dollars and cents the history of the county's material prosperity and development from the time when the various towns were valued only at the price of a present day farm to our present total county assessment of more than twenty million dollars.

It is regrettable that our very earliest assessments are lost. The first assessment was made by the county board, consisting of Henry Schuyler and Wm. J. Nolan, in an adjourned meeting held December 5, 1857, in Nolan's house on Washington Island. At this meeting the assessed valuation of all improved lands was fixed at \$3 per acre, of unimproved at \$2.50, and of pine lands at \$6. As there probably was not 100 acres of improved lands in the entire county in that year the proceeds from the first class were very small. Perhaps five thousand acres of unimproved lands were held by fishermen and the very few prospective farmers. Of pine lands the entries were nearly all within the present boundaries of the City of Sturgeon Bay and probably amounted to the same acreage as the unimproved lands held by private owners in the county. In this year (1857), however, all the mills of Sturgeon Bay failed owing to the panic and the taxes were returned. It is therefore safe to assume that the entire assessed valuation of the county, less the assessment of lands on which taxes were returned, in 1857 and for a year or two following was less than twenty thousand dollars, or the price of a good present day farm.

The first figures on record are for the year 1862. By this time the county had largely emerged from that slough of despond into which it had fallen in the panicky days of 1857, many prospective farmers had picked lands and moved in, a number of villages had been platted and started and the county was able to support a news-

paper. The assessed valuation of the county, as equalized by the county board consisting of A. G. Warren, D. H. Rice and M. Schmitz, is therefore high and optimistic. Sevastopol heads the list with a valuation of \$57,511, while Brussels, including Gardner and Union, with a population of several hundred Belgians and the large mill of F. B. Gardner at Little Sturgeon, comes second with a valuation of \$53,669. The Town of Washington which by this time had been settled by fishermen for twenty-five years is assessed at \$20,182.

Apparently the county board of 1862 was too liberal in its interpretation of the county's resources. Three years later we find another county board, consisting of Jos. Colignon, James Gillispie and Allen H. Powers, take a far more gloomy view of the situation. Sevastopol's valuation has been cut in two and the valuation of the Town of Washington is only one-third of what it was three years previously.

The county board from the year 1862 to 1869 consisted of only three members, the county being divided into three districts. Their ridiculous methods of equalizing taxes well illustrates the pernicious character of this system. This small committee of three men met once a year and arbitrarily fixed the valuation of the different towns to suit itself. If they had a little grudge to settle toward a certain neighborhood, perhaps for lack of political support or other cause, they arrogantly increased the valuation of the land from two to three dollars per acre and there was no one there to protect the aggrieved district. For instance, in 1867 the county board increased the assessment of Liberty Grove from \$33,192 to \$83,481 and at the same time decreased the assessment of the Town of Brussels from \$27,736 to \$24,200. Yet Brussels at this time had four times as many acres of cleared land, being a town of a large and comparatively prosperous population as compared to Liberty Grove, which had only a few new struggling Scandinavian settlers in it.

The highhanded manner in which these early arbitrary county boards levied and equalized taxes is enough to make a worshiper of justice weep with vexation. There was a state board of equalization but it did not seem to have exerted any control over local taxation. Lands were classified as improved and unimproved. All improved lands were assessed at the same value, usually either \$2.50 or \$3.00 per acre regardless of location, topographical conditions, fertility or drainage. The equalization of taxes was therefore a pernicious farce. The owners of well improved farms near the Village of Sturgeon Bay paid no more tax per acre than did the new settlers

in the backwoods of Jacksonport or Liberty Grove. Sometimes they even paid less. In 1872 all lands in the county were assessed at \$3 per acre except Washington, which was listed at \$2, and Sturgeon Bay, which was listed at \$2.50. The Town of Brussels tried hard to have its assessment also cut to \$2 per acre.

This price of \$3 per acre was kept for a number of years with occasional variations according to the strength of the plea of the various chairmen. The assessed valuation of the county therefore shows only a slight increase during the ten-year period from 1868 to 1877. In fact, the total assessed valuation of the entire county was \$14,000 less in 1877 than it was in 1869. In 1877 it was \$724,397 and in 1869 it was \$738,486.

The members of the committee on equalization in 1877 labored under the very common delusion that the lower the assessment the lower would be the taxes. They did not realize that the same amount of taxes have to be raised whether the assessment is high or low. They therefore cut the assessment to the following prices per acre: Town of Washington, \$1.75 per acre; towns of Gardner and Union, \$2 per acre; towns of Baileys Harbor, Brussels, Clay Banks, Egg Harbor, Gibraltar, Jacksonport, Liberty Grove, Nasewaupee, Sevastopol and Sturgeon Bay, \$2.25 per acre; Town of Forestville, \$2.50 per acre. The Village of Sturgeon Bay was assessed at only \$30,745, or about half of what it had previously been assessed at. After a big fight the village was raised \$10,000, and Union, Gardner and Brussels were raised twenty-five cents per acre. This arbitrary assessment drew forth a sharp protest from Jacksonport in which it was claimed that "Sturgeon Bay is worth at least \$300,000, whereas it is assessed for only \$40,000, or considerably less than the value of the two sawmills and the grist mill." This was the low water mark in assessed valuations in the entire state. All that was accomplished by this was to give the county a bad advertisement as an unprogressive and poverty stricken section. The committee that put this through were Alexis Frank of Brussels, J. T. Wright of Sturgeon Bay Village and Hans Torgerson of Liberty Grove.

The next year, 1878, an honest attempt was made to make assessments keep pace with the development of the county. The members of the committee this year were A. Henderson of Liberty Grove, John Fetzer of Forestville and Joseph Zettel of Sevastopol. Brussels and Forestville were assessed at \$4 per acre, Clays Banks and Sevastopol at \$3.50, and all other towns at \$3, except Washington, which was \$2.75. The Village of Sturgeon was put at \$70,000, or



almost doubled. As a result the total valuation reached \$1,217,995, being the first year it passed the million mark.

After this there is a small but steady increase year by year until 1892. Beginning with this year we have another long period of stagnation of values. For seven years following the total assessed valuation of the county remained practically the same, being in the neighborhood of two million dollars. During several of these years there was a protracted financial depression, accompanied by local grasshopper plagues, and hailstorms which may account for a large part of this stagnation. The chief trouble, however, was that the county board did not take the equalization of taxes seriously. The law requiring assessments to be made at full value was entirely forgotten and the prevailing idea was to keep county and state taxes down by making low assessments.

In 1902 we finally come to a beginning of a business-like assessment. The equalization committee of the county board of 1902 did real work, based on the report of Mr. L. D. Mowry, the supervisor of assessments. He adopted the sales method, computing the sales for the three previous years and aligning the assessments of the various towns accordingly. The committee on equalization for this year were S. A. Rogers, Nic Moeller, D. E. Englebert and Alex. Meikle, and as a result of their initiative the deadlock in Door County's annual financial report was broken. The assessment of the county more than doubled the figures of the preceding year. This method has since been followed, though not very strictly until lately. However, the county showed a healthy growth. Door County is now doing quite well in the matter of assessments, some of the towns assessing at almost full value. Among the most faithful assessors are Gibraltar, which at present (1916) heads the list. According to the published report of the income assessor of this district, Mr. H. A. Dvorak, with an assessment of 94 per cent of the true value of its real estate. Next comes Brussels with 87 per cent and Forestville with 86 per cent. The assessed valuation of the county in 1916 was \$20,771,885 of which more than \$10,000,000 was added since 1911.

The problem of equalizing the assessments of the various districts in the county is each year the most important matter before the county board and frequently has given rise to very spirited arguments. The finding of the county board has, however, been accepted as final every year with two exceptions. The first was in 1889 when Mr. Frank Wellever, chairman of the Town of Egg Harbor, appealed from the action of the county board. The report on the equalization was that

year adopted by a vote of ten to nine. This report placed a value on the lands of Egg Harbor at only fifteen cents per acre less than the value of the lands of Sevastopol and only twenty-five cents less per acre than those of Forestville, the best farming town in the county. According to the statutory provisions of that time a commission was appointed by the circuit judge to investigate the merits of the appeal. After a prolonged investigation the commission ordered a refund of \$76 to be paid to Egg Harbor, while it levied a proportionate increase against Forestville. A few minor changes were also made. The history of this appeal is interesting in that, while the commission made but slight changes, its expenses amounted to \$1,534, which was levied against the county. It had, however, a beneficial influence upon the assessment of Egg Harbor which was kept down for the next ten years.

The second appeal was taken by the town of Clay Banks from the report adopted by the county board in 1915. The history of this appeal is very important because it showed the danger of relying too much on the sales method of ascertaining valuations. The supervisor of assessments for Door and Kewaunee counties, Mr. H. A. Dvorak, basing his findings on the sales, gave Clay Banks the credit of being assessed more nearly at true value than any other town. The equalization committee devoted much time to its work and disagreed with many findings of his report. Particularly did it find that Clay Banks, instead of being the best, was one of the poorest assessed towns in the county. It, therefore, recommended an increase in the assessment of Clay Banks of about one hundred thirty thousand dollars, or about 88 per cent. Its report was adopted by the county board by a vote of fifteen to four.

An appeal was made by the town of Clay Banks to the State Tax Commission. This commission met in the courthouse in Sturgeon Bay the following April, 1916. Mr. Dvorak appeared on behalf of Clay Banks. He claimed that the assessment fixed by the county board was unjust and excessive because the sales for five years on which he had based his values showed no such value of the real estate. The method he followed was recommended by the tax commission. Mr. H. R. Holand, member of the equalization committee, appeared on behalf of the county. He stated that the committee had found it necessary to set aside the sales used by the supervisor of assessments because they did not reflect true values. Among other arguments he presented a list showing the assessed values of the lands on both sides

of the town line between Clay Banks and Forestville. While the lands averaged the same in quality the twenty-four forties on the Clay Banks side were assessed just \$24,000 less than the twenty-four forties of the Forestville side of the line. Notwithstanding this much higher assessment of Forestville lands the supervisor of assessments had rated Clay Banks as being assessed at 89 per cent of true value while Forestville was rated at 84 per cent. This proved the fallacy of the sales method in this instance.

The tax commission obtained verbatim reports of all the testimony. After taking the matter under advisement it rendered its verdict in July, 1916, in which it concurred in all the figures of the county board. During the following year the supervisor of assessments made a thorough investigation into the value of Clay Banks. He found that his sales data were misleading and that the county board had been right in raising its assessment. Indeed, he found that the board had been too conservative for in his next report he recommended an additional increase of \$130,000 above the figures fixed by the county board.

In the following pages there will also be found, at the bottom of each column of assessments, beginning with 1872, a statement of the total county and state tax levied in that year. The figures given include all taxes except the town and village (or city) taxes.

ASSESSED VALUATION OF THE DIFFERENT ASSESSMENT DISTRICTS OF DOOR COUNTY, AS EQUALIZED  
BY THE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR THE YEARS 1861 TO 1870 INCLUSIVE,  
YEARS 1861, 1863, 1864, 1866 and 1868 NOT RECORDED

	1862	1865	1867	1869	1870
Baileys Harbor . . . . .	\$ 21,589.30	\$ 13,981.00	\$ 36,586	\$ 43,374	\$ 44,590.00
Chambers Island . . . . .	6,450.32	4,094.91	7,624	.....	.....
Clay Banks . . . . .	14,322.11	20,985.00	32,352	31,056	27,997.00
Brussels . . . . .	53,669.25	27,736.68	24,200	37,020	39,615.00
Egg Harbor . . . . .	39,909.18	24,785.00	59,313	53,127	53,196.00
Forestville . . . . .	33,682.74	28,081.00	34,000	53,688	53,316.50
Gardner . . . . .	.....	16,940.15	31,250	59,310	55,242.50
Gibraltar . . . . .	10,435.16	21,732.00	40,000	54,646	55,488.75
Jacksonport . . . . .	.....	.....	.....	45,122	43,571.50
Liberty Grove . . . . .	38,902.67	33,192.00	83,481	102,218	87,569.50
Nasawaupee . . . . .	29,867.00	18,486.00	33,215	33,876	45,129.25
Sevastopol . . . . .	57,511.66	28,950.00	60,020	57,224	73,261.25
Sturgeon Bay . . . . .	48,870.08	36,571.00	43,000	87,773	105,035.00
Union . . . . .	.....	.....	23,624	34,377	31,744.00
Washington . . . . .	20,182.24	7,031.00	9,447	17,192	22,730.00
Total for County . . . . .	\$395,391.71	\$285,564.74	\$518,112	\$710,050	\$738,486.25

# HISTORY OF DOOR COUNTY

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## ASSESSED VALUATION OF THE VARIOUS ASSESSMENT DISTRICTS OF DOOR COUNTY AS EQUALIZED BY THE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR THE YEARS 1871 TO 1880 INCLUSIVE

	1871	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876	1877	1878	1879	1880
Balleys Harbor....	\$39,922	\$44,850	\$49,371	\$45,915	\$47,846	\$42,141	\$46,569	\$51,996	\$37,189	\$35,597
Brussels .....	15,050	46,491	30,518	33,478	62,727	63,414	47,875	102,688	101,542	104,112
Clay Banks .....	32,579	37,744	45,535	51,989	49,641	35,443	28,741	56,59	48,858	51,037
Egg Harbor .....	55,977	52,599	81,111	62,115	67,120	62,873	51,612	79,123	84,858	82,020
Forestville .....	45,697	72,573	83,417	83,813	82,997	83,118	64,655	116,745	124,255	113,727
Gardner .....	48,850	66,134	81,214	74,041	51,640	59,899	49,460	57,827	55,288	74,834
Gibraltar .....	60,019	73,670	70,774	75,058	73,358	70,094	58,514	104,050	99,996	86,054
Jacksonport .....	42,355	45,940	44,910	44,930	40,673	43,340	43,935	54,002	73,975	67,934
Liberty Grove .....	80,379	100,139	102,345	104,009	135,291	89,775	82,756	119,249	128,624	122,662
Nasauwapec .....	18,317	51,144	54,126	53,605	83,764	54,801	49,284	78,704	80,610	95,225
Neenatopol .....	70,684	84,803	87,989	87,552	68,806	82,027	63,731	118,174	117,736	139,000
Sturgeon Bay Town .....	112,189	108,649	136,313	147,383	124,896	103,035	60,478	127,786	155,812	147,660
Union .....	34,760	41,461	41,533	38,895	44,798	47,374	27,859	53,587	39,765	36,301
Washington .....	33,431	21,883	22,770	30,794	30,941	30,748	19,973	28,994	20,079	30,400
Sturgeon Bay Village .....	50,230	80,319	39,130	19,130	48,668	59,516	40,745	70,000	87,797	76,334
Total for County....	\$723,833	\$934,316	\$977,202	\$862,706	\$949,216	\$916,597	\$724,397	\$1,217,995	\$1,281,359	\$1,284,294
Total County and State Taxes.....		16,166	16,105	1,275	20,000	4,799	16,001	11,770	15,000	10,697

## ASSESSED VALUATION OF THE VARIOUS ASSESSMENT DISTRICTS OF DOOR COUNTY AS EQUALIZED BY THE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR THE YEARS 1881 TO 1890

	1881	1882	1883	1884	1885	1886	1887	1888	1889	1890
Balleys Harbor ...	\$62,968	\$67,456	\$65,114	\$84,521	\$73,750	\$78,129	\$71,278	\$68,203	\$72,419	\$68,635
Brussels .....	103,762	105,950	111,637	111,137	119,529	124,774	111,843	121,041	121,752	131,112
Clay Banks .....	57,850	79,389	52,259	55,911	60,824	58,281	51,500	56,751	58,098	57,946
Egg Harbor .....	96,984	91,719	108,100	122,103	93,132	108,603	96,846	94,914	95,530	88,407
Forestville .....	116,164	123,691	133,373	131,542	133,147	133,215	130,199	140,118	149,150	150,119
Gardner .....	79,119	77,170	78,172	80,114	81,930	81,214	85,047	86,795	81,137	85,722
Gibraltar .....	87,219	93,479	99,056	101,760	103,118	102,641	98,261	99,160	101,778	94,872
Jacksonport .....	63,070	70,688	7,286	82,258	65,271	88,984	89,126	89,006	91,309	97,387
Liberty Grove .....	127,926	179,880	151,247	125,063	150,817	142,312	141,800	140,344	156,121	122,590
Nasauwapec .....	97,483	102,741	107,818	104,415	109,529	108,437	113,500	127,640	128,415	127,481
Neenatopol .....	131,037	142,115	144,009	144,015	119,076	143,089	142,626	161,198	159,543	160,864
Sturgeon Bay Town .....	185,051	183,772	83,911	81,983	90,261	97,401	89,818	96,894	104,318	110,234
Union .....	40,281	44,850	41,242	46,781	51,113	51,015	50,816	61,123	51,721	53,844
Washington .....	37,781	40,621	48,701	49,214	44,425	41,512	42,210	50,411	44,413	46,445
Sturgeon Bay City .....	115,858	100,000	267,465	275,127	272,861	217,212	267,509	315,700	260,000	441,878
Total .....	\$1,106,541	\$1,122,481	\$1,505,426	\$1,519,150	\$1,508,688	\$1,509,816	\$1,529,487	\$1,735,283	\$1,756,288	\$1,945,376
Total County and State Taxes .....	9,668	15,763	18,519	16,159	24,444	27,497	29,951	21,844	27,291	27,488

## ASSESSED VALUATION OF THE VARIOUS ASSESSMENT DISTRICTS OF DOOR COUNTY AS EQUALIZED BY THE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR THE YEARS 1891 TO 1900

	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900
Balleys Harbor ..	\$67,327	\$69,144	\$67,715	\$64,908	\$66,908	\$64,912	\$66,488	\$69,040	\$73,013	\$69,132
Brussels .....	150,145	163,635	171,740	174,637	174,637	169,000	167,459	162,095	172,981	237,705
Clay Banks .....	63,181	65,234	70,059	72,576	71,885	69,485	67,510	65,323	67,988	87,138
Egg Harbor .....	89,981	91,346	92,617	85,881	88,876	86,609	85,387	84,198	87,510	114,496
Forestville .....	185,855	191,313	212,140	203,406	203,106	197,400	193,387	189,183	195,541	250,811
Gardner .....	87,926	89,867	91,080	96,674	101,685	99,255	97,577	93,690	96,901	126,607
Gibraltar .....	96,852	99,849	107,277	99,103	102,161	98,410	96,456	99,959	109,837	144,802
Jacksonport .....	92,115	95,461	97,094	96,800	98,10	94,803	94,882	94,792	100,680	133,401
Liberty Grove .....	129,969	144,432	148,525	130,947	140,218	132,411	130,185	131,796	147,705	181,802
Nasauwapec .....	138,488	141,588	150,592	162,080	158,051	154,601	155,506	157,782	158,906	216,887
Neenatopol .....	182,119	187,721	197,983	198,101	201,715	197,455	220,078	210,190	224,777	303,598
Sturgeon Bay Town .....	56,505	58,005	58,871	65,122	66,734	64,578	65,329	62,11	65,094	87,253
Union .....	56,526	60,560	62,715	68,264	67,582	67,118	67,988	64,999	67,690	88,758
Washington .....	43,770	45,460	46,191	54,252	54,412	52,782	52,597	52,276	54,885	72,181
Sturgeon Bay City .....	531,884	556,172	590,840	594,600	581,000	555,500	559,000	559,010	588,800	794,040
Total .....	\$1,972,441	\$2,048,415	\$2,139,571	\$2,169,218	\$2,177,719	\$2,105,499	\$2,114,793	\$2,081,750	\$2,211,498	\$2,924,199
Total County and State Taxes .....	20,516	28,186	25,450	24,901	31,052	30,994	32,337	37,125	38,077	76,908

## HISTORY OF DOOR COUNTY

ASSESSED VALUATION OF THE VARIOUS ASSESSMENT DISTRICTS OF DOOR COUNTY AS EQUALIZED BY  
THE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR THE YEARS 1901 TO 1910

	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910
Baileys Harbor ..	\$105,000	\$170,300	\$174,189	\$198,710	\$209,179	\$201,300	\$209,000	\$239,000	\$228,000	\$229,000
Brussels ..	290,000	635,469	642,496	656,970	660,372	679,000	709,000	709,000	810,000	830,000
Clay Banks ..	111,000	237,403	237,279	249,514	251,446	259,000	269,500	269,500	300,000	305,000
Egg Harbor ..	120,000	237,385	243,037	278,219	306,814	305,000	308,000	308,000	350,000	360,000
Forestville ..	322,000	707,162	699,837	736,086	739,592	738,000	769,000	769,000	880,000	895,000
Gardner ..	155,000	340,989	310,707	366,870	370,170	378,500	397,000	397,000	440,000	480,000
Gibraltar ..	165,000	374,892	368,914	344,228	350,980	351,000	365,000	365,000	387,500	392,500
Jacksonport ..	150,000	279,445	292,680	304,692	310,531	311,000	327,000	327,000	374,000	374,000
Liberty Grove ..	210,000	274,962	302,394	475,181	481,373	482,500	501,500	501,500	548,500	548,500
Nasawaupee ..	265,000	702,735	692,938	671,756	673,747	711,500	743,000	743,000	812,800	812,800
Sevastopol ..	350,000	756,949	768,375	770,154	776,419	811,500	848,000	846,000	933,000	933,000
Sturgeon Bay Town	108,000	293,264	285,245	281,178	281,298	281,300	294,000	294,000	323,000	327,000
Union ..	110,000	362,692	349,813	345,852	347,707	368,000	372,500	372,500	411,500	411,500
Washington ..	80,000	152,360	159,118	157,370	162,572	174,000	181,000	181,000	198,500	198,500
Sturgeon Bay City	840,000	1,688,141	1,706,518	1,883,292	1,903,325	1,923,500	1,995,000	1,995,000	2,070,500	1,989,500
Total .....	\$3,381,000	\$7,395,768	\$7,419,819	\$7,720,068	\$7,818,153	\$7,964,500	\$8,296,500	\$8,296,500	\$9,067,300	\$9,186,200
Total County and State Taxes ..	41,312	51,442	45,847	44,140	49,893	51,774	66,030	74,943	75,703	78,626

ASSESSED VALUATION OF THE VARIOUS ASSESSMENT DISTRICTS OF DOOR COUNTY, AS  
EQUALIZED BY THE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR THE YEARS 1911 TO 1916

	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916
Baileys Harbor...	\$ 230,700	\$ 305,000	\$ 364,000	\$ 411,300	\$ 483,300	\$ 528,121
Brussels .....	843,500	1,204,000	1,572,400	1,732,800	1,952,100	2,226,693
Clay Banks .....	306,800	356,400	433,800	450,200	622,100	763,817
Egg Harbor .....	364,200	496,100	657,000	771,900	959,700	1,081,794
Forestville .....	899,100	1,140,800	1,469,900	1,673,800	1,937,100	2,132,854
Gardner .....	481,700	696,300	929,900	1,043,300	1,201,800	1,300,265
Gibraltar .....	395,300	494,800	677,400	762,700	850,500	978,178
Jacksonport .....	378,000	467,800	592,800	683,400	803,100	873,849
Liberty Grove ....	552,300	567,700	691,000	767,600	962,500	1,086,231
Nasawaupee .....	823,200	1,001,800	1,315,900	1,456,600	1,620,600	1,863,202
Sevastopol .....	979,600	1,171,300	1,629,300	1,866,400	2,220,500	2,500,947
Sturgeon Bay Town	328,100	425,400	549,000	623,200	579,800	725,928
Union .....	413,100	530,500	631,800	750,500	963,100	904,427
Washington .....	199,700	286,200	338,800	364,500	423,500	462,590
Sturgeon Bay City	2,004,900	2,318,600	2,859,200	2,579,000	2,866,000	3,193,575
Sister Bay .....	.....	95,100	106,600	107,200	121,200	149,323
Total .....	\$9,200,000	\$11,557,600	\$14,818,600	\$16,044,400	\$18,466,900	\$20,771,855
Total County and State Taxes..	\$86,266	\$85,695	\$135,793	\$113,725	\$109,657	\$124,470

## CHAPTER XV

### A ROLL OF HONOR

The following is a complete list of the soldiers from Door County who served in the Civil war. It was compiled for this work by the late, deeply lamented Allen Higgins, who was sergeant major of his regiment, the Thirty-third Wisconsin Infantry, from the Government roster of Civil war soldiers.

Door County's population in 1861 was less than three thousand. From this number it sent 167 recruits into the war. Most of these enlisted voluntarily.

The first name from Door County on the roster is that of Lieutenant Henry Smith Schuyler. He was also the first to return to Door County to die from illness contracted in the war. When a Grand Army post some years later was established in Sturgeon Bay it was therefore appropriately named the H. S. Schuyler Post.

#### FIRST WISCONSIN CAVALRY

Henry Smith Schuyler, Sturgeon Bay; Co. I; promoted 1st Lieut. from Sergt. Maj. Sept. 30, 1863; resigned April 2, 1864, disability.

Nicholas Armbrust, Sevastopol; Co. F; Nov. 20, 1863; discharged July 19, 1865.

Ludwig Schumacher, Nasewaupee; Co. F; Nov. 20, 1863; discharged July 19, 1865.

Christopher Stephan, Nasewaupee; Nov. 20, 1863; unassigned recruit; no further record.

Robert Stephenson, Sevastopol; Co. F; Nov. 20, 1863; discharged July 19, 1865.

John Miller, Forestville; Co. H; Oct. 21, 1861; transferred to V. R. C. June 13, 1864; also served in Co. G, 6th Wis. Inf. from March 27, 1865, to July 14, 1865.

#### SECOND WISCONSIN CAVALRY

Edward S. Minor, Fish Creek; Co. G; Dec. 28, 1861; Veteran Corp. Sergt.; promoted 2d Lieut. June 13, 1865; 1st Lieut. July 29, 1865; discharged Nov. 15, 1865.

Nicholas Carrels, Gibraltar; Co. G; Dec. 28, 1861; wounded Jan. 8, 1863, Springfield, Mo.; discharged by reason of wounds April 15, 1863.

George Griffin, Liberty Grove; Sept. 24, 1864; unassigned recruit.

#### THIRD WISCONSIN CAVALRY

Ephraim Squire, Sturgeon Bay; Co. K; Aug. 23, 1862; transferred to re-organized Co. E. Feb. 1, 1865; discharged June 19, 1865.

Septimus Stephenson, Sevastopol; Co. C; Nov. 24, 1863; Q. M. Sergt.; transferred to re-organized Co. H March 23, 1865; discharged Sept. 29, 1865.

#### FOURTH WISCONSIN CAVALRY

William C. Betts, Washington; Co. H; Oct. 4, 1861; Veteran Corp. Sergt.; discharged June 20, 1865.

#### ELEVENTH BATTERY WISCONSIN LIGHT ARTILLERY

Morris O'Reardon, Sturgeon Bay; Feb. 18, 1862; Veteran; prisoner; discharged July 10, 1865.

This company was known as the "Oconto Guards" and was recruited for the 17th Wis. Inf. The regiment being full they went to Chicago and were attached to a battery of Mulligan's Irish Brigade; afterward became Battery L, Ill. Light Artillery.

#### FIRST REGIMENT WISCONSIN HEAVY ARTILLERY

Henry Koehme, Nasewaupée; Co. H; Sept. 24, 1864; discharged June 26, 1865.

Alfred Morgan, Gibraltar; Co. K; Sept. 13, 1864; discharged June 26, 1865.

#### FIRST REGIMENT WISCONSIN INFANTRY

Joseph Married, Sturgeon Bay; Co. I; Aug. 15, 1862; transferred to Co. F, 82d Wis. Inf.; discharged May 30, 1865.

Aaron Moulton, Sturgeon Bay; Co. K; Aug. 5, 1862; prisoner; transferred to Co. K, 21st Wis. Inf. Sept. 19, 1864; discharged June 8, 1865.

Soloman Schaffstall, Sturgeon Bay; Co. K; Aug. 14, 1862; prisoner; transferred V. R. C. March 8, 1864.

John Sorrenson, Sturgeon Bay; Co. C; Nov. 25, 1863; transferred to Co. G, 21st Wis. Inf. Sept., 1864; discharged July 18, 1865.

Robert Scofield, Sturgeon Bay; Co. K; Aug. 15, 1862; discharged April 30, 1863.

#### THIRD WISCONSIN INFANTRY

Theodore Damkoehler, Sturgeon Bay; Co. B; April 21, 1861; discharged Jan. 5, 1863, disability.

Charles E. Dickinson, Egg Harbor; Co. H; Oct. 4, 1864; discharged July 18, 1865.

William Le Roy, Egg Harbor; Co. H; Oct. 4, 1864; discharged July 18, 1865.

#### FIFTH WISCONSIN INFANTRY

James Dunlap, Baileys Harbor; Co. F; Nov. 10, 1862; discharged Sept. 8, 1863.

#### SIXTH WISCONSIN INFANTRY

James R. Mann, Gardner; Co. A; Oct. 4, 1864; discharged March 15, 1865.

Alexis Frank, Brussels; Co. B; Oct. 4, 1864; discharged May 30, 1865.

Guillaume Delsipee, Gardner; Co. B; Oct. 4, 1864; prisoner at Gravelly Run; absent sick at discharge of regiment.

John A. Miller, Forestville; Co. G; March 27, 1865; discharged July 14, 1865.

#### SEVENTH WISCONSIN INFANTRY

Julius Bernhardt, Forestville; Co. B; Nov. 5, 1864; discharged July 3, 1865.

Julian W. Hardke, Baileys Harbor; Co. G; Oct. 20, 1864; discharged July 3, 1865; wounded 2d Hatchers Run.

#### ELEVENTH WISCONSIN INFANTRY

Jesse Kimber, Nasewaupee; Co. C; March 30, 1865; discharged Sept. 4, 1865.



Nicolas Simon, Nasewaupee; Co. C; March 21, 1865; discharged Sept. 4, 1865.

George King, Sevastopol; Co. E; April 8, 1865; discharged Sept. 4, 1865.

John Meyer, Sevastopol; Co. E; April 6, 1865; discharged Sept. 4, 1865.

Dennis Crowley, Sevastopol; Co. I; March 23, 1865; discharged Sept. 4, 1865.

#### TWELFTH WISCONSIN INFANTRY

James Bannan, Sturgeon Bay; Oct. 14, 1861; from band transferred to Co. H; Aug. 13, 1862; Veteran; transferred to V. R. C. April 1, 1865; discharged July 23, 1865.

James Lennon, Sevastopol; Co. H; Oct. 1, 1861; Veteran; Sergt.; 1st Sergt.; promoted 2d Lieut. April 11, 1865; discharged July 16, 1865.

John B. Connard, Gardner; Co. F; Oct. 15, 1861; Veteran; discharged July 24, 1865.

Arnold F. Baptist, Nasewaupee; Co. H; April 14, 1864; discharged July 16, 1865.

Mortimer Bradley, Sturgeon Bay; Co. H; Oct. 10, 1861; discharged for disability June 7, 1862.

Jacob Crass, Sevastopol; Co. H; Oct. 10, 1861; Veteran; discharged July 16, 1865.

Henry Harris; Sturgeon Bay; Co. H; Sept. 15, 1861; Veteran; Corp.; promoted 2d Lieut. Co. F, 43rd Wis. Inf. Aug. 10, 1864. (See Co. F, 43rd Wis.)

Joseph Harris, Jr., Sturgeon Bay; Co. H; Sept. 28, 1861; Veteran; Corp.; promoted 2d Lieut. Co. K, 36th Wis. Inf. Feb 15, 1864. (See Co. K, 36th Wis. Inf.)

Neils Nelson, Sturgeon Bay; Co. H; Sept. 30, 1861; died June 25, 1862, at Troy, Tenn., disease.

Peter Peterson, Sturgeon Bay; Co. H; Sept. 30, 1861; Veteran; wounded at Atlanta; discharged for wounds June 29, 1865.

Richard Roe, Washington; Co. H; Oct. 2, 1861; Veteran; wounded July 21, 1864; prisoner Jan. 28, 1865, Salkahatchie, S. C.; discharged June 30, 1865.

James Y. Roe, Washington; Co. H; Oct. 2, 1861; Veteran; wounded; discharged July 16, 1865.

Ole R. Salveson, Sevastopol; Co. H; Oct. 10, 1861; Veteran; discharged July 16, 1865.

Eliphalet Sanford, Nasewaupee; Co. H; April 14, 1864; died Aug. 10, 1864, Marietta, Ga., disease.

Albert H. Sherwood, Sturgeon Bay; Co. H; Sept. 28, 1861; Veteran; discharged July 16, 1865.

John Solway (Falk), Sevastopol; Co. H; April 13, 1864; discharged July 16, 1865.

Lewis E. Warren, Clay Banks; Co. H; Sept. 28, 1861; Veteran; Corp.; promoted 2d Lieut. Co. G, 58rd Wis. Inf.; not mustered; discharged May 11, 1865.

Julius Warren, Clay Banks; Co. H; Feb. 16, 1864; wounded Atlanta; discharged July 16, 1865.

Rufus M. Wright, Sturgeon Bay; Co. H; Feb. 16, 1864; Corp.; wounded at Lovejoy's Station, Sept. 2, 1864; discharged May 26, 1865.

#### FOURTEENTH WISCONSIN INFANTRY

Joel Ashby, Forestville; Co. E; Feb. 27, 1864; discharged Oct. 9, 1865.

Henry Bodette, Forestville; Co. E; Feb. 27, 1864; discharged Oct. 9, 1865.

William Herring, Forestville; Co. E; Oct. 11, 1861; Veteran; wounded Vicksburg; discharged Oct. 9, 1865.

William Fagg, Forestville; Co. E; Oct. 7, 1861; promoted 2d Lieut. Co. I, 47th Reg. U. S. Colored Inf. June 5, 1863; resigned Nov. 24, 1863; re-enlisted in Co. G, 6th Wis. Inf. March 27, 1865; discharged July 14, 1865.

Richard M. Perry, Forestville; Co. E; Dec. 23, 1861; musician; discharged for disability Dec. 28, 1862; re-enlisted Veteran; Co. E, Feb. 27, 1864; Corp.; discharged Oct. 9, 1865.

Matthew Perry, Forestville; Co. E; Oct. 7, 1861; musician; Veteran; discharged Oct. 9, 1865.

William Sabin, Forestville; Co. E; Oct. 5, 1861; died April 25, 1862, Pittsburg Landing, disease.

Andrew Sloggy, Forestville; Co. E; Oct. 7, 1861; Veteran; discharged Aug. 22, 1865.

William Stoneman, Forestville; Co. E; Dec. 27, 1864; died Sept. 1, 1864, Albany, Ind., disease.

Wm. A. Nelson, Forestville; Co. E; Oct. 5, 1861; discharged

May 5, 1863, to accept promotion in 8th La. Colored Troops U. S. Infantry.

Philip Riley, Gardner; Co. H; Oct. 4, 1864; discharged Oct. 9, 1865.

Edward Keogh, Forestville; Co. E; Feb. 27, 1864; Corp.; discharged Oct. 9, 1865.

#### FIFTEENTH WISCONSIN INFANTRY

Halvor Hoen (Haines), Nasewaupee; Co. F; Feb. 18, 1862; died Sept. 27, 1862, Jackson, Tenn., disease.

Joseph Lavassor, Sturgeon Bay; Co. F; Feb. 26, 1862; discharged March 17, 1864; disability.

George W. Marshall, Gibraltar; Co. F; Feb. 25, 1862; Corp.; killed May 27, 1864, New Hope Church, Ga.

Christian O. Morbeck, Gibraltar; Co. F; Feb. 22, 1862; transferred to Co. H Jan. 13, 1865; discharged March 13, 1865.

Carl Nielson, Gibraltar; Co. F; Feb. 24, 1862; discharged April 10, 1863, disability.

Ole (Eli) A. Thompson, Sturgeon Bay; Co. F; Feb. 19, 1862; transferred to Co. H Jan. 13, 1865; discharged March 13, 1865.

Tollack Tollackson, Nasewaupee; Co. F; Feb. 24, 1862; died Aug. 25, 1862, Iuka, Miss.

Torger Torgerson, Gibraltar; Co. F; Feb. 22, 1862; wounded Stone River; died April 3, 1863, Murfreesboro, Tenn.

#### SEVENTEENTH WISCONSIN INFANTRY

Henry Beauman, Forestville; Co. E; Oct. 4, 1864; discharged July 14, 1865.

Frederick Maedke, Forestville; Co. E; Oct. 3, 1864; discharged July 14, 1865.

Anton Schneider, Forestville; Co. E; Oct. 4, 1864; discharged July 14, 1865.

William Harrington, Egg Harbor; Co. H; Oct. 4, 1864; discharged July 14, 1865.

Daniel W. Sanborn, Baileys Harbor; Co. H; Oct. 4, 1864; discharged July 14, 1865.

Carl A. Schermer, Baileys Harbor; Co. I; Oct. 4, 1864; discharged July 14, 1865.

Seraphim Laviolette, Jr., Gardner; Co. G; Oct. 2, 1864; discharged July 14, 1865.

Charles H. Le Roy, Egg Harbor; Oct. 17, 1864; discharged July 14, 1865.

Charles Schroeder, Egg Harbor; Oct. 18, 1864; discharged May 19, 1865.

Eli Solway, Gardner; Oct. 4, 1864; prisoner; discharged May 19, 1865.

(Leroy Schroeder and Solway, with about one hundred fifty others from various parts of the state, were recruited for the 17th Wisconsin Infantry, but never joined the regiment. They were attached to the Army of the Cumberland and served therein till discharged at the close of the war.)

#### EIGHTEENTH WISCONSIN INFANTRY

Rasmus Christianson, Gardner; Co. E; Sept. 26, 1864; discharged June 2, 1865.

Seraphim Laviolette, Gardner; Co. K; Oct. 4, 1864; discharged July 18, 1865.

Leopold Balza, Gardner; Co. G; Oct. 4, 1864; discharged July 18, 1865.

#### TWENTY-FIRST WISCONSIN INFANTRY

Abel Plouf, Gibraltar; Co. H; Oct. 18, 1864; discharged June 8, 1865.

Emrie Beach, Sevastopol; Co. E; Jan. 28, 1864; transferred to Co. E, 3rd Wis. Inf. June 8, 1865; discharged July 18, 1865.

James F. Sawyer, Gibraltar; Co. K; March 28, 1864; wounded Savannah; transferred to Co. K, 3d Wis. Inf. June 8, 1865; discharged July 18, 1865.

#### TWENTY-SIXTH WISCONSIN INFANTRY

Ernst Damkochler, Nasewaupee; Co. I; Aug. 19, 1862; wounded and taken prisoner May 15, 1864; died June 26, 1864, Andersonville, Ga., disease.

Philip Feldmann, Nasewaupee; Co. I; Aug. 19, 1862; died Aug. 2, 1863, in Corps Hospital from wounds received July 1, 1863, Gettysburg, Pa.

Adam Heilmann, Nasewaupée; Co. I; Aug. 19, 1862; transferred to V. R. C. Oct. 19, 1863; discharged June 28, 1865.

George Boyer, Sevastopol; Co. I; Aug. 19, 1862; wounded at Kenesaw Mountain; absent sick at discharge of regiment. (Old settlers report that he returned to his home in summer of 1865.)

#### THIRTY-SECOND WISCONSIN INFANTRY

Albert Claflin, Gibraltar; Co. E; Aug. 15, 1862; died June 7, 1864, Fish Creek, Wis., disease.

Henry C. Graham, Egg Harbor; Co. F; Aug. 15, 1862; 1st Sergt. 2d Lieut. May 8, 1864; 1st Lieut. Nov. 11, 1864; discharged June 12, 1865.

Michael F. Kalmbach, Fish Creek; Co. F; Sept. 17, 1862; 1st Lieut. with rank from Sept. 17, 1862; resigned July 23, 1863.

Nelson R. Lee, Sturgeon Bay; Co. F; Aug. 15, 1862; Sergt.; 1st Sergt.; 2d Lieut. Nov. 11, 1864; discharged June 12, 1865.

Richard Ash, Sevastopol; Co. F; Aug. 15, 1862; discharged June 12, 1865.

John J. Barringer, Gibraltar; Co. F; Aug. 15, 1862; Corp. Sergt.; discharged June 12, 1865.

William D. Badger, Sturgeon Bay; Co. S; Aug. 15, 1862; Corp.; promoted Commissary Sergt. Jan. 1, 1864; prisoner Sept. 1, 1864, Atlanta, Ga.; discharged May 30, 1865.

Mathias Bailey, Gibraltar; Co. F; Aug. 15, 1862; Corp.; discharged June 12, 1865.

Allen Bradley, Liberty Grove; Co. F; Aug. 21, 1862; discharged June 12, 1865.

George Bradley, Liberty Grove; Co. F; Aug. 21, 1862; discharged June 12, 1865.

Michael Brophey, Gibraltar; Co. F; March 18, 1864; transferred to Co. G, 16th Wis. Inf., June 4, 1864; discharged June 12, 1865.

Frederick Berge, Sturgeon Bay; Co. F; Aug. 15, 1862; discharged June 12, 1865.

Charles H. Claflin, Gibraltar; Co. F; Aug. 15, 1862; discharged March 8, 1863, disability.

William Claflin, Gibraltar; Co. F; Aug. 15, 1862; discharged May 17, 1865.

Luke Coyne, Sevastopol; Aug. 15, 1862; discharged June 12, 1865.

William Duwe, Forestville; Co. F; Aug. 15, 1862; discharged June 12, 1865.

Robert M. Ferguson, Sturgeon Bay; Co. F; Aug. 25, 1862; died Nov. 19, 1863, Memphis, Tenn., disease.

William Fry; Co. F; Aug. 15, 1862; transferred to Vet. Reserve Corps April 24, 1865; no further record.

James Fuller, Washington; Co. F; Aug. 21, 1862; Corp.; discharged June 12, 1865.

Ole Gulickson, Sturgeon Bay; Co. F; Aug. 15, 1862; discharged June 12, 1865.

David G. Haines, Washington; Co. F; Aug. 21, 1862; died June 20, 1863, Jackson, Tenn., disease.

Richard B. Heath, Sevastopol; Co. F; Nov. 16, 1863; transferred to Co. G, 16th Wis. Inf., June 4, 1865; discharged July 12, 1865.

Henry C. Knudson, Sturgeon Bay; Co. F; Aug. 15, 1862; discharged July 12, 1865.

Walter H. Lamphier, Sturgeon Bay; Co. F; Aug. 15, 1862; Wagoner; discharged June 12, 1865.

John Lang, Nasewaupee; Co. F; Aug. 15, 1862; Corp.; discharged June 12, 1865.

Robert Leasum, Gibraltar; Co. F; Aug. 15, 1862; Sergt.; discharged June 12, 1865.

Alexander Olen, Egg Harbor; Co. F; Aug. 15, 1862; died Oct. 30, 1863, Memphis, Tenn., disease.

Increase Stephenson, Gardner; Co. F; Aug. 20, 1862, died April 16, 1865, New Berne, N. C., disease.

David Vaughn, Sturgeon Bay; Co. F; Aug. 21, 1862; died Sept. 12, 1864, Atlanta, Ga., disease.

Albert Wead, Sevastopol; Co. F; Nov. 9, 1863; transferred to Co. G, 16th Wis. Inf., June 4, 1865; discharged July 12, 1865.

Sylvester Wead, Sevastopol; Co. F; Nov. 9, 1863; transferred to Co. G., 16th Wis. Inf., June 4, 1865; discharged July 12, 1865.

Lorenzo J. Weldon, Gardner; Co. F; Aug. 21, 1862; discharged June 12, 1865.

Charles J. C. Wilkins, Sturgeon Bay; Co. F; Aug. 15, 1862; discharged (dropped from rolls April 30, 1863).

John S. Potter, Sturgeon Bay; Co. F; Aug. 15, 1862; discharged June 26, 1865.

#### THIRTY-FOURTH WISCONSIN INFANTRY

Isaac Chapman, Baileys Harbor; Co. B; Nov. 10, 1862, discharged Sept. 8, 1863.

Samuel Williams, Baileys Harbor; Co. B; Nov. 10, 1862; discharged Sept. 8, 1863.

Louis Kraft, Washington; Co. E; Nov. 10, 1862; discharged Sept. 8, 1863.

Alexander Balza, Brussels; Co. F; Nov. 26, 1862; transferred to Co. H Dec. 27, 1862; discharged Sept. 8, 1863.

Maximillian Conard, Brussels; Co. F; Dec. 6, 1862; transferred to Co. H Dec. 27, 1862; discharged Jan. 13, 1863.

Julian Delforge, Brussels; Co. F; Dec. 6, 1862; transferred to Co. H Dec. 27, 1862, but not taken up. No further record.

Jean Batiste Detionne, Brussels; Co. F; Nov. 10, 1862; transferred to Co. H Dec. 27, 1862; discharged Jan. 16, 1863.

John Fearsom, Gibraltar; Co. H; Sept. 14, 1864; died Aug. 17, 1865; Washington, disease.

Jean Rouer, Brussels; Co. F; Dec. 6, 1862; transferred to Co. H Dec. 27, 1862, but not taken up. No further record.

Ole Sorenson, Gibraltar; Co. F; Dec. 2, 1862; discharged Dec. 19, 1862, for disability.

Eugene Delforge, Sturgeon Bay; Co. H; Nov. 17, 1862; discharged Sept. 8, 1863.

Jean Joseph Rouer, Sturgeon Bay; Co. H; No. 17, 1862; Corp.; discharged Sept. 8, 1863.

Pierre Pillett, Door County; Co. K; Nov. 24, 1862; transferred to Co. H Jan. 28, 1863; discharged Sept. 8, 1863.

Frederick Hendricks, Baileys Harbor; Co. I; Nov. 24, 1862; transferred to Co. K Jan. 2, 1863; discharged Sept. 8, 1863.

Joseph Destin, Brussels; Co. K; Nov. 17, 1862; transferred to Co. H Jan. 28, 1863; discharged Oct. 8, 1863.

Jean B. Tricot, Brussels; Co. F; Nov. 17, 1862; transferred to Co. H, Dec. 27, 1862; Corp.; died June 18, 1863, Memphis, Tenn., disease.

Joseph Harris, Jr., Sturgeon Bay; Co. K; promoted 2d Lieut. from Corp. Co. H, 12th Wis. Inf., Feb. 15, 1864; wounded June 18, 1864, Petersburg, Va.; 1st Lieut. July 22, 1864; Capt. Sept. 14, 1864; not mustered; discharged Sept. 13, 1864, by reason of wounds.

Smith D. Weldon, Gardner; Co. G; Feb. 27, 1864; wounded Hatchers Run Oct. 27, 1864; discharged July 12, 1865.

#### FORTY-THIRD WISCONSIN INFANTRY

Henry Harris, Sturgeon Bay; Co. F; promoted 2d Lieut. from Corp. Co. H, 12th Wis. Inf., Aug. 10, 1864; discharged June 24, 1865.

Clement Geniesse, Brussels, now Union; Co. F; Oct. 3, 1864; discharged Feb. 9, 1865, disability.

Lewis S. Williams, Gibraltar; Co. F; Sept. 19, 1864; discharged May 27, 1865, disability.

Thomas Carmody, Egg Harbor; Co. I; Sept. 20, 1864; discharged June 24, 1865.

William Helmholtz, Clay Banks; Co. I; Aug. 27, 1864; Corp., discharged June 24, 1865.

Rustan O. Reed, Sturgeon Bay; Co. I; Sept. 3, 1864; Corp.; discharged June 24, 1865.

James Woolridge, Clay Banks; Co. I; Sept. 1, 1864; discharged June 24, 1865.

#### FORTY-FOURTH WISCONSIN INFANTRY

Christian Hinger, Liberty Grove; Co. B; Sept. 26, 1864; discharged Aug. 16, 1865.

Job Phineas Dodge, Liberty Grove; Sept. 24, 1864; unassigned recruit; no further record.

The following list has been compiled by the editor from various sources and is believed to contain the names of all veterans of the Civil war who enlisted from other counties and states and later moved into Door County. The list also contains the names of some who were residents of Door County prior to the Civil war but at that time were temporarily absent and enlisted from other places. The names of these persons should properly be in the list above:

Jesse A. Betts, Washington; Co. I, 13th Ill. Inf.

Chris Gilger, Rock Island; 12th Indiana Cavalry.

Henry D. Miner, Washington; Co. G; 2d Ill. Battery.

Goodlet Goodletson, Washington; Co. G; 18th U. S. Inf.; discharged May 2, 1864; also served in navy, U. S. S. Chickasaw, from May 2, 1864, to July 6, 1865.

John Brown, Gibraltar; Co. D, 15th Reg. Ill. Inf.; March 16, 1865, to Sept. 16, 1865.

Sartial R. Stephenson, Sevastopol; Co. C, 2d Battalion 16th U. S. Inf.; April 10, 1862, to Sept. 19, 1863; discharged on surgeon's certificate of disability at Louisville, Ky.

Van Ransilar Marshall, Egg Harbor; 16th Reg. U. S. Inf.

Jacques Neuville, Gardner; Co. K, 5th Minn. Inf.; Nov. 16, 1864, to Nov. 16, 1865; served under name of Joseph Teraux.

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Henry J. Grandy, Sturgeon Bay; Co. I, 4th Ill. Cav.; Aug. 26, 1861, to Nov. 3, 1864.

Henry Wead, Sturgeon Bay; Co. I, 4th Ill. Cav.; Aug. 26, 1861, to Nov. 3, 1864.

Isaac L. Johnson, Clay Banks; navy, U. S. S. Volunteer; enlisted Dec., 1864; drowned in Cumberland River near Clarksville, Tenn., Dec. 15, 1865.

Lansing R. Stephenson, Sevastopol; Co. C, 74th Ill. Inf.; Aug. 1, 1862, to Nov. 3, 1864; wounded and taken prisoner at Murfreesboro, Dec. 31, 1862; sent to Libby Prison; released Jan. 8, 1863; rejoined regiment June 10, 1863.

Isaac Chapman, Baileys Harbor; Co. B, 84th Wis.

Wm. A. Sanderson, Baileys Harbor; Co. B, 44th N. Y.

Henry Parker, Baileys Harbor; Co. C, 11th Maine.

Joseph B. Gage, 1st Lieut., Baileys Harbor; Ohio Ind. Battery.

Joseph Roscoe, Egg Harbor; Co. H, 4th N. Y. Artillery.

John Bullis, Egg Harbor; Co. A, 1st N. Y. Cavalry.

C. R. Thayer, captain, Egg Harbor; Co. H, 38d Wis.

John Gumm, Egg Harbor; Co. H, 1st Wis.

Frederick Londo, Egg Harbor; Co. K, 21st Wis.

R. V. Marshall, Egg Harbor; Co. G, 16th Wis.

Theodor Vanderbek, sergeant, Egg Harbor; Co. F, 38d Wis.

Charles Vertz, Egg Harbor; Co. H, 4th Wis.

Lyman D. Mowry, Egg Harbor; Co. C, 39th Wis.

M. Rittenberg, Egg Harbor; Co. E, 14th Wis. Light Artillery.

Jacob Vertz, Egg Harbor; Co. E, 14th Wis.

James Alexander, Egg Harbor; Co. I, 29th Wis.

Alexander Lucia, Egg Harbor; Co. G, 4th Mass.

Edward Shine, Egg Harbor; Co. F, 28th Wis.

John Shields, Egg Harbor; Co. A, 28th Wis.

Smith Weldon, Gardner; Co. G, 36th Wis.

William Hicks, Gardner; Co. A, 117th N. Y.

Peter Feskoette, Gardner; Co. F, 36th Wis.

Frank Simon, Gardner; Seaman, Steamer Amazon.

S. K. Giese, Gardner; Co. K, 3d Wis.

James Mozitt, Gardner; Co. G, 40th Wis.

J. E. Hoyt, lieutenant, Liberty Grove; Co. C, 136th N. Y.

John Doty, Liberty Grove; Co. B, — Wis. Cavalry.

Barney Cavanaugh, Liberty Grove.

John Beadnall, Liberty Grove.

John Rhode, Sevastopol; Co. K, 134th N. Y.

Henry Rhode, Sevastopol; Co. H, 62d N. Y.  
Peter Mishow, Sevastopol; Co. A, 1st Wis.  
Solon Birmingham, Sevastopol; Co. K, 10th N. Y.  
E. C. Daniels, Sevastopol; Co. —, 9th Ohio Battery.  
Nicholas Brust, Sevastopol; Co. B, 52d Wis.  
A. Moore, Sevastopol; Co. B, 79th Penn.  
John Brust, Sevastopol; Co. A, 52d Wis.  
C. C. Batchelder, Sevastopol; Co. A, 25th Mich.  
Joseph Mardin, Sevastopol; Co. D, 52d Wis.  
Geo. W. Stephenson, Sevastopol; Co. B, 99th N. Y.  
John H. Smith, Nasewaupee; Co. C, 89th Ill.  
William Plohr, Nasewaupee; Battery 2, Wis. L. G.  
Joseph Schneider, Nasewaupee; Co. A, 5th Wis. Cavalry.  
Conrad Weckler, Nasewaupee; Co. F, 15th Wis.  
Simon Frander, Nasewaupee; Co. E, 16th Wis.  
Jacob Herman, Nasewaupee; Co. D, 82d Wis.  
Albert Wobser, sergeant, Nasewaupee; Co. F, 45th Wis.  
Frank Konrad, Nasewaupee, Co. D, 45th Wis.  
Peter Dellenbach, Nasewaupee; Co. I, 26th Wis.  
Gottlieb Mosemann, Nasewaupee; Co. G, 1st Wis. Cavalry.  
Nicholas Kihl, Gibraltar; Co. K, 21st Wis.  
Theo. Anderson, Gibraltar; seaman, Monitor Passaic.  
Ruel E. Moses, Gibraltar; Co. C, 4th Wis. Cavalry.  
M. B. Hanson, sergeant, Gibraltar; Co. C, 4th Wis. Cavalry.  
William Ducton, Gibraltar; Co. K, 14th N. Y.  
E. C. Truman, Gibraltar; Co. B, 86th N. Y.  
William Darling, Gibraltar; Co. E, 6th Wis.  
Daniel L. Fish, Gibraltar; Co. F, 100th Ill.  
E. S. Raymond, sergeant, Gibraltar; Co. D, 52d Wis.  
Peter Van Brummer, Gibraltar; Co. E, 146th N. Y.  
John C. Tenneson, Gibraltar; Co. K, 50th Wis.  
Samuel Churches, Gibraltar; Co. E, 1st Wis.  
David L. Allen, Gibraltar; Co. B, 5th Wis.  
Charles Lundberg, Gibraltar; Co. G, 51st Wis.  
Gelliant Geniesse, Union; Co. G, 82d Wis.  
Gaspard Martin, Union; Co. G, 82d Wis.  
Clement Geniesse, Union; Co. F, 42d Wis.  
Charles Reynolds, captain, Jacksonport; Co. A, 12th Wis.  
A. C. Eveland, Jacksonport; Co. E, 14th Wis.  
Myron D. Whopple, sergeant, Jacksonport; Co. D, 3d Wis.  
J. C. Messenger, Jacksonport; Co. C, 11th U. S. Inf.

Wm. R. Brabazon, Jacksonport; Co. D, 22d Wis.  
David Champeau, Jacksonport; Co. D, 16th Wis.  
Byron J. Erskine, Jacksonport; Co. B, Maine C. G.  
David Conklin, Jacksonport; Co. A, 1st Wis.  
Thomas Johnson, Jacksonport; Co. H, 8d Maine or Mich. Cavalry.  
Fred Pfeifer, Jacksonport; Co. A, 85th Wis.  
Joseph S. Cornell, Washington; Co. B, 105th Ill.  
John Dowling, Washington; Co. A, 15th Mich.  
Jacob Young, Washington; Co. H, 2d Mass.  
William Bradshaw, Washington; Co. E, 5th Wis.  
H. B. Stockwell, Washington; Co. B, 1st Iowa Cavalry.  
Victor Rohn, lieutenant, Washington; Co. F, 45th Wis.  
G. G. Forey, Sturgeon Bay; Co. I, 1st Wis.  
John Noyes, captain, Sturgeon Bay; Co. E, 7th Kansas Cavalry.  
Julius Steumpges, Sturgeon Bay; Co. F, 27th Wis.  
B. G. Hannan, Sturgeon Bay; Co. G, 1st Wis.  
William Tippler, Sturgeon Bay; Co. D, 29th Wis.  
Fred Krueger, Sturgeon Bay; Co. I, 17th Wis.  
Horace Van Doozer, Sturgeon Bay; Co. I, 43d Wis.  
Geo. Walker, Sturgeon Bay; Co. L, 8th N. Y. Artillery  
Sven Samuelson, lieutenant, Sturgeon Bay; Co. F, 15th Wis.  
D. Wieland, Sturgeon Bay; Co. G, 4th Mich.  
Enos Renier, Sturgeon Bay; Co. D, 27th Wis.  
Henry Post, Sturgeon Bay; Co. C, 16th Wis.  
Joseph Thorence, Sturgeon Bay; Co. O, 20th Penn.  
Peter Simon, 21st Wis.  
Nicholas Simon, Co. C, 11th Wis.  
Eugene Birmingham, Co. D, 41st Wis.  
Wm. Halstead, Co. L, 1st Wis. Cavalry.  
John Masse, Co. C, 82nd Wis.  
E. L. Russell, corporal, Co. F, 4th Ohio Cavalry.  
F. Mullen, Co. K, 18th U. S. Regulars.  
Edward Cox, Co. E, 87th Wis.  
A. D. Thorp, Ord. Serg., Co. K, 43d Wis.  
Frank Ives, Co. C, 144th O. N. G.  
C. B. Packard, Sloop of War Vincennes.  
James Shafer, Co. D, 49th N. Y.  
W. R. Lindsley, Co. H, 13th Wis.  
T. W. Hunt, Co. F, 11th Wis.  
J. G. Hendricks, A. A. S., U. S. A.  
W. W. Follet, Co. G, 41st Wis.

Ole Falk, Co. H, 12th Wis.  
Jacob Jacobs, Co. B, 11th Wis.  
J. S. Hay, Co. K, 21st Wis.  
Geo. E. Deffoe, Co. E, 14th Wis.  
Benjamin Blasier, Co. A, 27th Wis.  
R. W. Phillips, Co. B, 118th N. T.  
John Blasier, Co. E, 14th Wis.  
Norman Ellis, Co. E, 90th N. Y.  
John Ellis, Co. E, 90th N. Y.  
Henry Hallam, Co. E, 14th Wis.  
Geo. Walker, Co. L, 8th N. Y. Artillery.  
Frank B. Parkman, Co. B, 20th Maine.  
John Falk, Co. H, 12th Wis.  
M. Cochems, Co. G, 12th Wis. Cavalry.  
James C. Pinney, Co. F, 42nd Ohio.  
Arnold Wagener, Co. A, 5th Wis.  
Dr. J. H. Soper, U. S. Engineering Corps.  
G. W. Palmer, Co. B, 6th Mich.  
J. A. Martin, Co. D, 52nd Wis.  
Lieut. Geo. W. Prescott, Co. G, 6th Minn. Reg't.  
Hugh McFadden, 79th Penn.  
R. E. Rickaby, Co. G, 14th Wis.  
Geo. M. Rickaby, Co. D, 16th Wis.  
Benjamin Minsker, Co. D, 86th Penn.  
Charles Dickinson, Co. H, 8rd Wis.  
Geo. Laux, Co. B, 12th Regulars.  
Capt. John Noyes, Co. E, 7th Kansas.  
William Jackson, Baileys Harbor, Co. A, 27th Wis.  
James Fletcher, Baileys Harbor, Co. I, 18th Ill.  
Albert J. Tufts, Co. E, 14th Wis.  
Freeman Fendleston, Co. E, 14th Wis.  
Geo. Larson, Baileys Harbor, Sergeant Major, 18th Wis. (also  
given as Co. K, 8th Wis.).  
John C. Calhoon, 2nd Ill. Artillery, Co. G.  
E. Cardy, Jacksonport, 16th Mich., Co. B.  
Alex. Templeton, Co. H, 36th N. Y.  
O. G. Rouse, Sergeant, Egg Harbor, Co. E., 14th Wis.  
John Machia, Co. C, 60th N. Y.  
Joseph Machia, 10th N. Y. Artillery.  
John Fetzer, Co. B, 9th Wis.  
John Lovell, Co. E, 14th Wis.

W. D. Spalsbury, Co. B, 94th N. Y.  
James A. Tufts, Co. E, 14th Wis.  
James Oakley, Co. I, 11th N. Y.  
Joseph Monossa, Co. F, 14th Wis.  
Robert H. Smith, Co. H, 3rd Mich.  
Samuel Wilson, Battery L, U. S. Reg.  
James Hellenbott, Co. I, 1st Wis.  
Martin Ketzinger, Co. B, 9th Wis.  
Geo. E. Heald, Co. A, 53rd Wis.  
K. K. Gigstad, Forestville, Co. F, 11th Wis.  
Fred Dahlman, Forestville, Co. E, 11th Wis.  
Philip Steck, Forestville, Co. D, 6th Wis.  
Chas. Coffrin, Forestville, Co. F, 13th Wis.  
Frank Gregor, Brussels, Co. G, 39th Wis.  
John Marcaux, Brussels, Co. G, 3rd Wis.  
C. L. R. Berndt, Sergeant, Brussels, Co. C, 47th Ohio.  
B. B. Day, Brussels, Co. E, 14th Wis.  
C. S. Raesser, Baileys Harbor, Co. M, 3rd Wis. Cavalry.  
Perry Smith, Baileys Harbor, Seaman, Monitor No. 1.  
M. M. Carrington, Baileys Harbor, Co. D, 52nd Wis.  
E. S. Raymond, Baileys Harbor, Sergeant, Co. D, 52nd Wis.  
Joseph Everson, Baileys Harbor, Co. B, 48th Wis.  
D. E. Rowe, Baileys Harbor, Co. E, 3rd Wis. Cavalry.

## CHAPTER XVI

### DOOR COUNTY SCHOOLS

In the summer of 1856 the first organized school in Sturgeon Bay was taught by Mrs. James McIntosh, for a term of three months, that time then being necessary under the statutes to draw public money. This was not, however, the first school, for several of the early settlers in the then wilderness of Door County, appreciating the benefits of even such meager educational advantages as could be obtained for their children, had sustained private schools from time to time; now compensating a hired hand for extra time spent in teaching a class of youngsters, and again hiring a lady teacher at their own expense to do regular school work in a room set aside in their own houses as the "school room." Those who sustained the principal part, if not the entire expense of these schools were Messrs. Robert and Perry Graham, Joseph Harris, Sr., and the Moravians of Ephraim. The first of these private schools was taught by Miss Pauline Larson in Ephraim in 1854.

As the milling resources developed, Sturgeon Bay grew and with it the schools, until the first school room over the old Graham store building on Main Street would no longer fill the requirements, and other quarters were found.

About this time, or to be more exact, in 1862, public notice was given that in accordance with the public laws of 1861, chapter 179, section 8, the office of county superintendent was created. On the 25th of January, 1862, Milton E. Lyman went into office, with headquarters in the old county building. The allowed salary of the county superintendent was \$350. In accordance with the duties of his office, he divided Door County into seven inspection districts, as follows, viz.:

District No. 1—Town of Brussels.

District No. 2—Towns of Nasewaupee, Clay Banks and Forestville.

District No. 3—Towns of Sturgeon Bay and Sevastopol.

District No. 4—Towns of Egg Harbor and Gibraltar.

District No. 5—Town of Baileys Harbor.

District No. 6—Town of Liberty Grove.

District No. 7—Town of Chambers Island.

Each of the districts was to be visited by the county superintendent for the purpose of inspecting the teachers, who were examined in: orthography, writing, reading, arithmetic, geography and grammar.

In the same year some important laws regarding the schools of Wisconsin were passed, concerning applicants for situations as teachers in the common schools. Every applicant was to be examined by the county superintendent, and after passing the examinations was to be given a certificate, first, second or third grade, according to his merits. These examinations were to be given semi-annually. There were in the county at this time about twenty-nine schools, for the most part unprosperous and inefficient.

The following is an abstract from Superintendent Lyman's annual report to State Superintendent Pickard:

"Since my last annual report to you I have held eight public examinations and seven special examinations. I have granted thirty certificates; have rejected seven applications and have made thirty-seven visits to schools. My county is about one hundred miles long by sixteen to twenty wide and not one mile of public conveyance in the county. I have traveled 1,142 miles, 1,022 on foot for school purposes the past year. There are twenty-nine districts in the county, an increase of four districts the past year. Our county, in common with all new counties, has suffered from delinquent taxes, rendering it almost impossible to hire teachers, or to pay them at the expiration of their term of office. \* \* \* Door County is improving fast in school room accommodations, but is yet sadly deficient. We want more commodious and better ventilated school rooms, maps, globes and school apparatus, and what we most want is the active co-operation of school boards and parents with teachers.

"M. E. LYMAN, County Superintendent."

Mr. Pickard adds the following comment to the report: "Mr. Lyman shows commendable energy in his work and confirms the truth of the proverb, 'Where there is a will there is a way' if no highway."

In the fall of 1863 the first teachers' association in Door County was organized. Mr. Lyman, finding the walking too much for him,

resigned his office at this time and State Superintendent McMynn appointed Wm. H. Warren to fill the vacancy. Mr. Warren opened his office November, 1864, at Clay Banks.

In January, 1865, school was commenced in the new village school-house under "Rev." Geo. Pinney, who, owing to his inability to govern the pupils soon resigned and was succeeded by A. Squier. Contrary to a resolution passed the previous fall, which provided for nine months' term, there were only three months of school. The chief difficulties of schools at this time were: the diversity of textbooks making it impossible to arrange the schools in their proper classes; second, lack of discipline and good order; third, no maps or globes or necessary school apparatus.

Some idea of the attitude in which the teachers (district teachers especially) were regarded at this time may be gained by the following extract taken from one of the local papers written some years later:

"Some years ago, the successful district schoolteacher had to be a pugilist as well as a scholar—in fact the school board looked more upon the muscular development of an applicant for school than they did upon his scholarly qualifications.

"In those happy days gone by the schoolteacher not only had to whip all the big boys in school, but was supposed to be able to thresh their fathers if occasion demanded it. The teacher was looked upon as an encyclopedia of information."

Due to the mismanagement of the school officers, the village school was, at this time, the most poorly managed in the county. Some of the citizens, tired of waiting for the public school to re-open, started a private school which after five months was closed, to be re-opened again April, 1867, on account of the crowded condition of the district school.

On October 15, 1867, the first teachers' institute was held, lasting four days. This organization still exists and flourishes up to the present time.

It now became necessary to separate and grade the school so it was divided into two departments, upper and primary. January 27, 1868, the school was burned to the ground. What was then known as Mr. Thompson's building, was purchased and fitted up for use as a temporary schoolhouse. In the upper rooms, to those who wished to advance their education, high school studies were taught (for a small consideration). Many of the young men of the village, being idle in the winter, attended school. The citizens began to take a lively



interest in educational matters, and as a result schools progressed rapidly. The number of schools had increased to thirty. The average wages of the teachers at this time were: male teachers, \$45.51; female teachers, \$29.65.

At the November election in 1858, R. M. Wright was elected to succeed Warren as county superintendent. A new law was passed in 1869, which resulted in a reformation of the districts, dividing them as follows:

District No. 1, Union, Brussels, Forestville and Gardner.

District No. 2, Nasewaupee, Clay Banks, Sturgeon Bay and Sevastopol.

District No. 3, Egg Harbor, Jacksonport, Baileys Harbor and Gibraltar.

District No. 4, Chambers Island, Liberty Grove and Washington Harbor.

The number of schools in each town was: Baileys Harbor, 1; Brussels, 2; Clay Banks, 2; Sturgeon Bay, 4; Sevastopol, 4; Forestville, 1; Gardner, 3; Gibraltar, 5; Union, 1; Jacksonport, 1; Liberty Grove, 3; Nasewaupee, 4; Washington, 1.

The county schools up to this time had been growing rapidly. The school buildings were mostly crude logs, fairly well lighted and ventilated. The furniture was mostly crude, and cheap, and in some cases rough boards supported by blocks were all the "benches" of which the school could boast. The number of children who attended these schools ranged from eleven to sixty-six, although the average number of registered students was about thirty.

On the night of November 4, 1869, the village schoolhouse was again burned to the ground. The hall over A. W. Lawrence's store and the lower part of Follett's building were fitted up and served as temporary schools. The next spring application was made to the school land commissioners by the district school board for the loan of \$2,000 under a special act, for the purpose of building a new school. This having been granted, bids for the construction of the building were opened. D. Kimber and Nelson being the lowest bidders, the contract was let to them. The new building was 80 by 60 feet, two stories high, the lower one 12 by 8 feet high and the upper 11 feet. The lower part was finished and ready for occupancy by November 1, 1870. In the meantime school was held in the N. R. Lee Building. At this time there were 2,692 children of school age in the county, while only 1,654 attended school.

The general improvements noted in the conditions of the schools

of 1871 were the general increase of the number of pupils, advancement in the quality of teachers, and in the appliances for educational work, also the improved school furniture and apparatus.

January 2, 1872, Chris Daniels assumed the office of county superintendent of schools, which place he filled for nine years. During the great conflagration that occurred in 1871 many of the district schools of Door County were destroyed. By a bill introduced by Mr. Allen, each of the districts that suffered such loss was given \$300 for the purpose of re-building the schools. The first free high school in our county was established in the fall of 1878, and was a great success from the beginning, although some of the citizens accused the school officers of "attempting too much and accomplishing too little." (One year later, 1879, the law of compulsory education went into effect.)

The next county superintendent was C. M. Smith, elected in 1881. Schools were rapidly advancing, the county school buildings were being replaced by new frame buildings, and there was a steady and healthy growth in attendance. Because of the lack of institutions in this county, in which teachers could receive competent education and training, and the inadequate means of travel (there was no railroad from Sturgeon Bay to Green Bay at that time), there was said to be a dearth of competent teachers.

In the year of 1884 a lot was purchased and a new school building was erected. At the November election J. W. Kinsel was elected county superintendent, which office he held until 1889 when W. L. Damkoehler was elected to office, he in turn being succeeded by William T. Anderson who was elected November, 1896.

Instruction in high school studies was inaugurated in 1868. Since then Door County has had one high school building to which pupils from every town in the county have been sent. The present commodious high school building was built in 1908 to replace one that was destroyed by fire in March of that year. The cost of the present building is \$44,184, besides the contents valued at \$5,000. The enrollment is 250. Eleven teachers are employed, the principal being Mr. Rudolph Soukop. The cost per capita for pupils in high school is \$44.17.

In 1913 an attempt was made to create a high school district comprising Gibraltar, Liberty Grove and Baileys Harbor. The attempt failed. In 1917 the Town of Gibraltar voted to establish a town high school, the measure being carried by a vote of 221 to 7. Abundant funds for erection and equipment were also voted and the high school will be erected without delay.

The average salary paid rural schoolteachers in Door County in 1915-16 was \$52 per month. In the year 1916-17 it was \$54 per month. In the present year, 1917-18, it is \$59. This is somewhat above the average wages paid to rural schoolteachers in the state. The people of Door County have also shown praiseworthy interest in building good school buildings and providing them with the desirable equipment. The state department has repeatedly published circulars complimenting Door County for its school buildings. Some of the best schools in the county in the matter of architecture and equipment are the schools of districts No. 1 in Sevastopol, Nos. 1 and 3 in Liberty Grove, No. 1 in Egg Harbor, Nos. 1, 2 and 3 in Brussels, No. 1 in Union, No. 1 in Gardner and No. 2 in Clay Banks.

For many years Door County has fostered a public school system of which her citizens have learned to speak with pride. Through all these years this "stable bulwark" of good government and free institutions has never been suffered to languish. Our public school edifices will compare favorably in points of architecture, internal adornment and personal comfort with those of the most advanced counties in the state. Further, by zealous and persistent efforts on the part of our school board and careful study of the system of the advanced cities of our state our school system has been perfected so far as it is possible to do with present experience. The useful features of the other plans have been incorporated with our own. The public schools are open to all, and what is more, they avail themselves of these advantages. The attitude of Door County toward education is now such that we need only to learn of new ideas to adopt them.

#### THE DOOR-KEWAUNEE TRAINING SCHOOL

Previous to the year 1907 no special provision was made by the County of Door to train the teachers for its schools. It was during the session of the county board that year that a resolution was passed by the board of supervisors to establish a training school for teachers and to maintain it in conjunction with Kewaunee County the institution to be known as the Door-Kewaunee Training School for Teachers.

The training school for the first year was held in rooms rented from the City of Algoma which rooms were located in the city school building at Algoma. In 1910 a large building and lot were purchased at Algoma by the training school board. This building was enlarged



THE CARNAT SCHOOLHOUSE



and completely remodeled for school purposes and at the present time is the home of the training school. During the past year a lot has been added to the school property which lot is being used for agricultural experiment purposes.

The school when first organized offered a two-year course for common school graduates and a one-year course for high school graduates granting a two-year and a five-year certificate to teach, respectively. Later a three-year course was added for graduates of common schools and during the past year, 1916-17, a four-year course for common school graduates has been offered.

Since the organization of the school there have been graduated from the training school 232 students. Of this number 163 were women and 67 were men. The graduating class of 1917 was the largest in the history of the school, there being 11 men and 24 women, a total of 35.

The school is maintained by a general tax levy upon the property of Door and Kewaunee counties. The school is also financed by special state aid, the aid for the year 1916-17 being \$5,250.

During the summers of 1916 and 1917 many teachers from the two counties have enrolled in the special summer session held in the training school. These summer sessions begin in June and continue for nine weeks.

The territory of Door and Kewaunee counties constitutes a training school district. The board membership from this district for the school is composed of six members, two elected by the county board of each county and the county superintendent of schools of each county, who constitute the ex-officio membership of the board. The present board is composed of the following members: Kewaunee County—Albert Karel, president; Senator M. W. Perry, treasurer, and County Superintendent Frank W. Worachek. Door County—Rev. O. N. Jordheim, William Jess and Bernard Madden, county superintendent. Ex-members of the board from Kewaunee are: Dr. V. Minahan, Algoma; Thomas Konop, Madison; former county Superintendents V. J. Romden and Jos. Sazema. Ex-members of the board from Door County are: Drs. A. J. Kreitzer and H. A. Norden of Sawyer and Sturgeon Bay, respectively, and former County Superintendents Arthur Smith and George A. Bassford. Doctor Kreitzer was a member of the board from the time of the organization of the school for eight years, during which eight years he was the president of the board and at the end of which time he resigned to visit the West.

Mr. J. A. Eichinger (now Oakby) was principal of the school for nine years, a period extending from the time of the organization of the school up to the present year, 1917. The new principal of the institution beginning with the year 1917 is Millard Tufts, former county superintendent of schools in Door County. The assistants in the school at the present time are Alice Leutscher, Antigo; Frances Herald, Oconto; and Margaret Breene, of Reedsburg. Those who have been instructors in the institution are Dorothy Gilfillan, Stevens Point; Mary Lenz, Madison; Mary Fitzgerald, Oconto; Edith Pritchard, Winneconne.

The training school is rated favorably for the quality of its graduates, for the adaptability of the school to the needs of the two counties and for the comparatively large number of men graduating from the school. Door County has hitherto manifested a greater interest in the school by sending more pupils.

## CHAPTER XVII

### THE STURGEON BAY CANAL

Many years ago Sturgeon was an open strait connecting Green Bay and Lake Michigan, and Northern Door County was an island. Lake Michigan, however, is a restless worker, incessantly and indiscriminately smoothing out its shore line, scraping away headlands, filling in bays and inlets and demolishing islands. In the brief space of time since Door County was surveyed Lake Michigan has already made great changes along the sandy eastern shore of the county. In the vicinity of Rowleys Bay, Mud Bay, North Bay and other points, it has destroyed hundreds of acres of land—taking the land of one owner to build up the acreage of another. At the Lake Michigan end of Sturgeon Bay this work of constructive destruction is perhaps most noticeable. Here the waves and the wind working together filled up the ancient strait and piled a ridge of sand thirty feet high, where in ancient times the water covered the land for miles.

That this ridge of sand is of recent origin is borne out by the fact that when the excavation for the canal through this neck of land was under way a cedar tree fourteen inches in diameter at the butt was found buried under forty-three feet of earth. It seems evident that this tree had been covered up by the drifting sand two or three centuries ago.

When the first settlers came this ridge of sand was almost two miles wide at its narrowest point and covered with a heavy growth of pine. The Indians had a well trodden trail over it, over which they portaged their canoes. Because of this barrier, so heedlessly thrown up by old Lake Michigan, the vessels plying between Green Bay and Chicago had an extra distance of 100 miles through the dangerous Death's Door passage, where so many of them came to grief.

To most people it seemed that, seeing this ridge of sand was there, it must always stay there. To cut a path through that rolling forest of timber so that ships could sail where then the wild deer bounded, seemed an impossible task. One man among Sturgeon Bay's pio-



neers was not daunted by a freak of nature, but believed a passage could be cut through the ridge. He saw that if this were done Sturgeon Bay would become a lake port as well as a Green Bay port, an ever increasing tonnage would flow past its doors and Sturgeon Bay would become a city instead of a postoffice. This man was Joseph Harris, Sr.

About 1860 he began to urge the formation of a company of stockholders who would dig the canal. He preached it early and late to his neighbors and to every chance visitor he met. His townspeople, however, were men of small means and little insight and Mr. Harris was laughed at as a dreamer. However, in the neighboring Village of Little Sturgeon there was a big business man by the name of F. B. Gardner who saw the great significance of the scheme, and through him Mr. Harris was able to interest many other men of large resources and influence.

In 1864, he was elected to the State Senate and while there drew up a charter of incorporation which was suffered to pass as a harmless though useless act. The list of incorporators, however, was more significant. They were William B. Ogden, president of the Chicago & Northwestern Ry. Co., Chicago's first mayor and the largest lumber operator in Northern Wisconsin; F. B. Gardner, Thomas H. Beebe, Jesse Spalding and A. E. Goodrich, of Chicago; Alexander Mitchell, Anson Eldred and Daniel Wells, of Milwaukee; Joseph Harris and George Bennett, of Sturgeon Bay; A. P. Lyman, of Sheboygan; Charles D. Robinson, Henry S. Baird, George Strong, Andrew E. Elmore, H. F. Waring, James S. Baker and F. S. Schettler, of Green Bay; Andrew Reed, of De Pere; William M. Whitcomb and Uri Balcom, of Oconto; Edwin C. French, of Peshtigo; Richard S. Fay, of Boston; George P. Smith, of Philadelphia; Elisha Riggs, of Washington, D. C.; J. S. Speirgelberg and David Magie, of New York; Elias Gill, of Hartford, Conn.; and William G. McMaster, of Lockport, N. Y. The widely extended territory indicated by the localities mentioned above but faintly illustrates the arduous labors performed by Mr. Harris from the conception of the canal in 1860 to its feeble birth in 1864.

The next year he went to Washington to fight for a land grant. He asked for 200,000 acres. The Wisconsin members of the lower house thought his request was too large and gave no help. Senators Howe and Doolittle assisted him in drawing up a bill which passed the Senate. He then left Washington to attend to his duties as state senator in Madison and while there learned that his land grant



**ALBERT G. WARREN**

Born in Connecticut in 1812. Came to Door County in 1855



**JAMES KEOGH**

Pioneer banker. Born in Ireland, April 26, 1850. Came to Door County with parents in 1852. Died January 23, 1896



**JOSEPH HARRIS, SR.**

The father of Sturgeon Bay and Lake Michigan Ship Canal

**PIONEERS OF DOOR COUNTY**



bill had failed to pass the House of Representatives by two votes. In 1866 Mr. Harris returned to Washington to devote his entire time to pushing the land grant. He secured memorials from influential commercial bodies, such as the Chicago Board of Trade and others, addressed to Congress, asking that the land grant to the canal company be given. This time he was successful. The bill passed and under authority from Governor Fairchild he located the lands May 15, 1866. The lands selected were all the odd numbered sections, lying nearest to the canal, a large part of them being in Marinette County. On October 4, 1866, the company, known as The Sturgeon Bay and Lake Michigan Ship Canal and Harbor Company, organized by electing William B. Ogden, president; Alexander Mitchell, vice president; and Joseph Harris, secretary and treasurer.

Money at this time was earning 10 per cent, being in great demand for pushing the industrial development that followed after the war. In a meeting of the officers in New York, Mr. Harris was told that it would be practically impossible to persuade capitalists to put their money into the enterprise unless an additional land grant of 200,000 acres was obtained. This was discouraging news but proved true. In Green Bay, for instance, the city that would be most benefited by the canal, no money was subscribed and only five dollars were obtained to be used for a preliminary survey of the canal. This survey was made in 1867 by A. E. Thompson and was paid for with \$1,500, which Mr. Harris obtained May 13, 1867, \$300 of this sum being given by the people of the Village of Sturgeon Bay. The survey made in 1867 located the canal about three-quarters of a mile north of the present route. Mr. Thompson estimated the cost of the canal on this route at \$700,000. This route was later abandoned because a ledge of rock was discovered which it was feared would prove too great an obstacle for excavation.

March 5, 1868, the Wisconsin Legislature passed an act, which was really a contract, providing the conditions under which the canal was to be built and paid for. According to this act the canal company was to build the canal, receiving one-fourth of the lands as soon as one-fourth of the work was done and the balance on similar terms. For the next four years, however, all concerned in the canal company slept, except Mr. Harris. On him it devolved to secure from Congress the second grant of 200,000 acres which was to entice capital. He got one bill after another introduced in Congress, but Congress failed to be persuaded. Memorials, petitions and inter-

views by the score were brought to the notice of Congress but without avail. S. P. Drew, lighthouse keeper on Green Island, kept a record of all vessels passing up and down the bay which would have used the canal if it had existed. According to him, there passed in 1868, 7,338 vessels; in 1869, 7,347 vessels; and in 1870, 7,369 vessels.

Statistics were collected showing the annual output of the saw-mills whose products would pass through the canal when built. These were as follows:

	Feet
Menominee River .....	300,000,000
Peshtigo River .....	75,000,000
Oconto River .....	150,000,000
Pensaukee .....	8,000,000
Little Suamico .....	8,000,000
Big Suamico .....	6,000,000
Green Bay .....	5,000,000
Ada River .....	16,000,000
Sturgeon Bay .....	15,000,000
Total.....	588,000,000

The untold dangers that these 7,000 vessels with their 600,000,000 feet of lumber annually encountered in the rocky defiles and tempestuous passages of Death's Door were thrillingly set forth, but Congress refused to thrill. It was like beating his head against a stone wall. In the meantime the time set for fulfilling the terms on which the first grant was based expired but this was twice renewed. Finally, to put a stop to any further importunities of that kind, Congress in 1872 declared against the policy of land grant and that avenue of assistance was closed for good.

Failing in this plan, Mr. Harris now tried another. He was at this time secretary to Senator Sawyer and through him got a bill passed providing for a new survey by the Government, and an examination of the lake shore for a harbor of refuge. This bill was passed and prepared the way for another making an appropriation of \$40,000, which also was passed. The survey was made in 1871 by Capt. T. W. Casgrain.<sup>1</sup> His estimate of the cost along the new route was \$500,000.

During these years lumber thieves, especially in Marinette

<sup>1</sup> For official report of the Government Survey, see the Door County Advocate for February 15, April 11 and April 18, 1872.



BEGINNING WORK ON HARBOR OF REFUGE AT LAKE MICHIGAN ENTRANCE TO  
STURGEON BAY AND LAKE MICHIGAN SHIP CANAL IN THE EARLY '70s



County had been busy in ruthlessly stripping the canal lands of their timber. A few of these thieves were brought to justice and about forty thousand dollars in "trespass funds" had accumulated in the state treasury to the credit of the canal company. At this time, too, Congress appropriated \$40,000 to reimburse the canal company for the loss sustained in the great fire of 1871, by which it was estimated that one-fourth of the pine lands of the canal lands had been rendered worthless. With this appropriation, with the trespass funds and with other funds raised by the company it now felt able to begin the work. May 7, 1872, a meeting of the directors was held in Chicago. W. B. Ogden was re-elected president; T. H. Beebe, vice president; Joseph Harris, secretary; and W. E. Strong, assistant secretary and treasurer. On the executive board were chosen W. B. Ogden, F. B. Gardner and Jesse Spalding. W. T. Casgrain was appointed chief engineer. Fifty-five thousand dollars was subscribed at the meeting to push the work. This was shortly afterward increased to \$75,000. Mr. Casgrain was instructed to advertise for bids to build one-fourth of the canal this season.

July 8, 1872, the first shovelful of earth was scooped from the bed of the future canal, by the dredge, Gutches. Joseph Harris and Chief Engineer Casgrain were the only visitors allowed on the dredge. From that time the work was pushed until the fall of 1873 when one-fourth of the work was done. The governor's certificate to this effect was issued October 7th, and the company shortly afterward received one-fourth of the lands. The following year the second quarter of the work was done. In this year, however, another period of serious financial depression set in, and there was no sale for second rate timber lands. In order to enable the company to continue the work, an act was passed by the Legislature, authorizing the company to mortgage all the lands as security for its bonds. However, on account of the panic, the bonds of the company could not be floated and the work stopped.

Almost three years went by and in the meantime the company was unable to raise any money on its bonds. This delay greatly irritated a large faction of the population of Sturgeon Bay and vicinity. Instigated by men who felt themselves slighted, a hue and cry went about that the whole scheme was only a fraudulent design of certain unscrupulous promoters who planned to sell the pine lands and pocket the money. Mr. Harris was sneered at as being only a tool of a ring of grafters. Three investigations were made of the affairs of the company and the deed to the second quarter of the



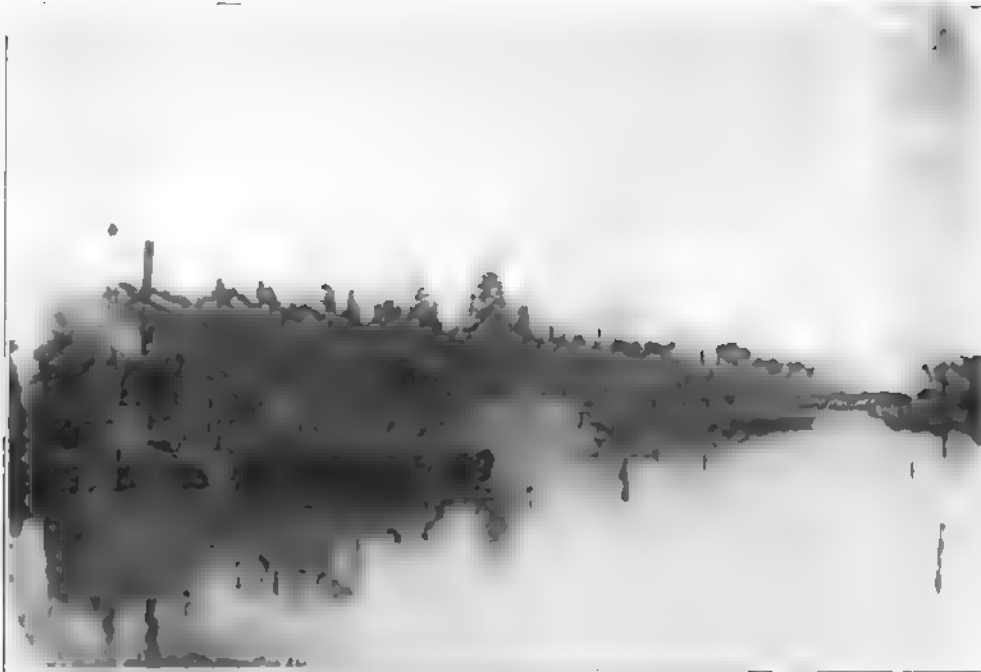
canal lands for work done in 1874 was in the meantime held up. It was finally proven that the management and designs of the company were honorable and plain and that the delay was necessitated solely by lack of funds. The second quarter of the work was finally accepted by the state in the summer of 1877.

Finding that the bonds could not be negotiated, the first 50,000 acres of land in 1877 were put up at auction by the company, and, with the proceeds, work was resumed with great vigor. Finally, on June 28, 1878, the waters of Green Bay and Lake Michigan rushed together. Two dredges worked toward each other until only two feet separated the waters of Sturgeon Bay and Lake Michigan. Superintendent Sager cut this with a shovel and the current soon enlarged the opening so as to admit the passage of a row-boat, manned by Captain Casgrain. This marked the completion of the third quarter of the canal.

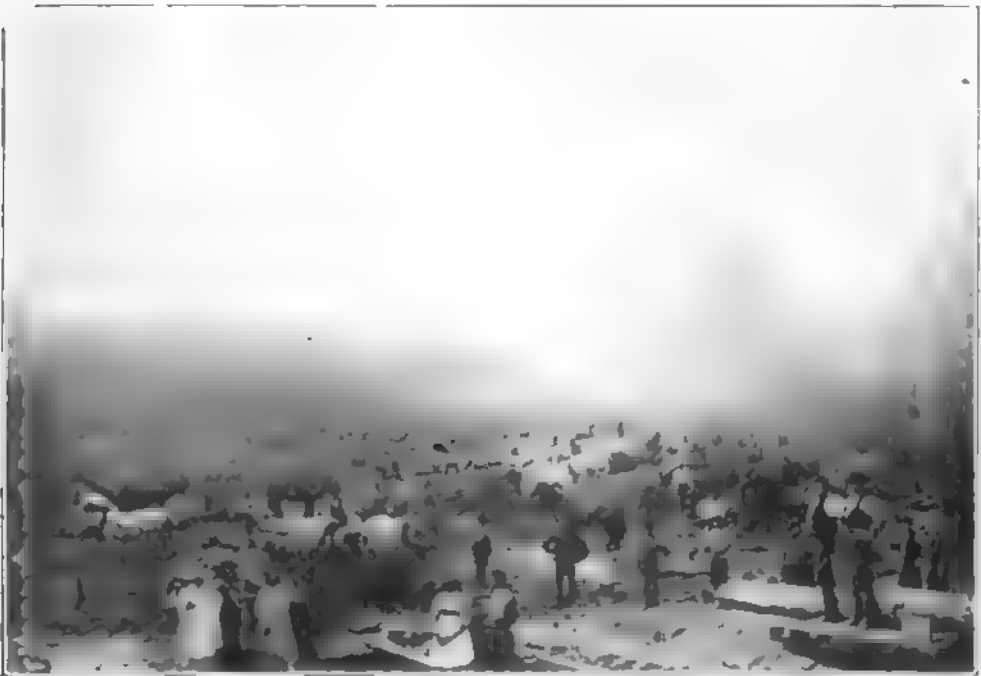
The people of Sturgeon Bay had looked forward to this great hour with the liveliest anticipation. A great celebration in honor of the event took place on the 4th of July. Delegations and bands were present from all the cities of the Green Bay region. After a dinner at the Music Hall, the invited guests and others proceeded to the public square. Gen. W. E. Strong presided over the ceremonies. Speeches were made by U. S. Senator T. O. Howe, Governor William E. Smith, George B. Smith, Judge John B. Cassaday, Jesse Spalding, and T. B. Chynoweth. Other prominent visitors from abroad were present, among them being Congressman Philetus Sawyer, State Senator George Grummer, William Pitt Lynde, George H. Paul, Perry H. Smith, P. V. Deuster, James H. Lowe, Harrison Ludington, J. T. Scammon, C. J. L. Myers, Abner Kirley and others. The canal was formally baptized and its entrance into the world of commerce formally recognized by the leading citizens of Wisconsin. But it was completed merely in the rough.

While small crafts at once began to use the canal, much dredging and excavation remained to be done to permit the passage of vessels drawing thirteen feet of water. Late in the fall of 1881 the canal was inspected by Government officials and was declared fully completed. More than one million one hundred thousand cubic yards of material had then been removed, being about one hundred thousand cubic yards more than the Government estimates called for.

The canal proper is 7,400 feet long and 100 feet wide. Along its banks for 3,300 feet on each side from the harbor extend pro-



DREDGING IN THE CANAL IN THE EARLY '70s



CLEARING TIMBER FROM THE CANAL SITE IN THE EARLY '70s



tecting piers or rivetments to keep the banks from being washed away. At right angles to these, extending from the harbor entrance, are two sections of piers, 350 feet in length. Outside of the canal lies the harbor which was built by the Government. It is 800 feet wide at the mouth of the canal, flanked by two cribs extending 1,350 feet into the lake. At the outside opening the harbor is 235 feet wide. The harbor was built directly by the Government, for which Congress appropriated at different times a total of \$180,000, which is the total cost of the harbor and breakwater. The cost of the canal up to 1881 when the canal was completed was as follows:

Excavation .....	\$229,867.32
Docking, rivetment, etc. ....	24,113.71
Civil engineer's department ....	37,480.66
<hr/>	
Total.....	\$291,461.69

In 1893 the canal was purchased by the Government for \$103,000.

Due principally to Joseph Harris' initiative and dauntless perseverance this canal was built and Sturgeon Bay now occupies a safe position of commercial importance. As is common in such cases, however, the services of the early father of this great enterprise are largely forgotten and others who have had little or nothing to do with the undertaking are given the credit. A striking illustration of this usurpation of credit is found in Hon. Isaac Stephenson's autobiography, where the ex-senator in describing his conquest of Northern Wisconsin and Michigan, calmly appropriates the credit of building the canal to himself! A little credit is given to his business associates, but not much; the lumber baron takes the lion's share to himself. As for Mr. Harris, Mr. Stephenson knows nothing of him. Mr. Stephenson refers to the canal in the following statements:

"1. The project of building a canal across the narrow neck of land at Sturgeon Bay called the portage had been under discussion for some years, but nothing was done until the Peshtigo Company (of which Mr. Stephenson was a large stockholder and general manager) took the initiative in the formation of a corporation to undertake the work of construction.

"2. A preliminary survey was made, largely through my efforts and at my expense.

"3. Later I succeeded in having the Government engineers make another survey.

"4. This was adopted and a grant of 200,000 acres of land was authorized.

"5. General Strong, secretary of the Peshtigo Company; Mr. Ogden, Jesse Spalding and myself had charge of the enterprise; but the actual direction of the affairs of the corporation fell largely to me, as the others were without the practical knowledge needed for work of this kind.<sup>1</sup>

"6. The waterway was opened for traffic in 1873."

From this it would seem that from start to finish and all along the line Mr. Stephenson was pretty much the whole thing in building the canal. This boast is not borne out by the facts on record, however. While Mr. Stephenson as a practical business man presumably was interested in seeing the canal put through, there is very little evidence that he was more than a spectator. Nor in any of the multitudinous writeups of the canal in Sturgeon Bay, Green Bay or Milwaukee papers from those years have I seen Mr. Stephenson's name mentioned more than once as in any way interested in the canal. A few words may be added replying to Mr. Stephenson's assertions in detail, based upon an impartial investigation of historical sources.

1. Mr. Joseph Harris and Mr. F. B. Gardner took the initiative in the formation of the corporation and the Peshtigo Company were represented in it only like all other business concerns of the Green Bay region.

2. The preliminary survey was made through the efforts of Mr. Harris and was paid for by contributions collected by him.

3. Congressman Philetus Sawyer, chairman of the rivers and harbors committee, whose secretary was Mr. Joseph Harris, provided for the survey by the Government.

4. The land grant of 200,000 acres was not the result of this survey but was made in 1866, five years previously.

5. Mr. Stephenson is in error about the officers of the company. They were until 1877 W. B. Ogden, T. H. Beebe, Joseph Harris, W. E. Strong and W. T. Casgrain. Upon Mr. Ogden's death in 1877 Mr. Jesse Spalding became president.

6. The canal was not opened in 1873. Only one-fourth of the work was completed that year. The canal was not opened for navigation until 1882.

<sup>1</sup> "Recollections of a Long Life," by Isaac Stephenson, pages 171 and 172.

## CHAPTER XVIII

### DOOR COUNTY INDUSTRIES

The industries of Door County are many and varied. The oldest and most important are fishing, lumbering and farming. Lately, however, many new industries have developed which annually bring in many million dollars into the county. These later industries are shipbuilding, the quarrying of stone, cheesemaking, fruitgrowing, canning, and the summer resort business.

#### FISHING

It was the fishing which first brought settlers to Door County. In 1836 a number of fishermen settled on Rock Island and in a few years the shores of Washington Island were also girdled with their nets. No figures are available to show what amount of fish was shipped from the county in those years or later, but the abundance of fish was fabulous and almost inexhaustible. For a great many years only whitefish and trout were caught. The large rivers of clear, cold water that poured into Green Bay from the great Wisconsin forests made it the favorite feeding and spawning ground for these fish. They were caught in gill nets 180 feet long set in from six to ten feet of water. These nets were kept upright by a certain style of sinkers, called fishermen's lead, attached to the bottom and wooden floats at the top. Sometimes the whitefish were so numerous that the nets had to be cleared of fish during the night. The profits, however, were small. After the whitefish or trout was dressed and packed it was taken to the nearest markets and mills and there sold for less than two cents a pound. This was the price as late as 1885.

When the whitefish after thirty to forty years began to show signs of depletion, the herring fisheries began. This fish was caught in huge pound nets costing upwards of six hundred dollars and suspended from "pound sticks"—immensely long tamarack poles—driven into the lake bottom in water forty to sixty feet deep. Some-

times fifty to one hundred "packages" could be taken from one net. These packages or half barrels weighed about 160 pounds when filled and were sold at from \$1.50 to \$3 apiece. In winter the herring was sold in a frozen state and then the price was sometimes only 40 cents per 100 pounds.

These pound nets lined the shores of the entire county and hundreds of fishermen were there busy cleaning their fish, mending their nets or overhauling their boats. While, as stated before, no statistics are available, it is probable that the fishing industry annually brought into the county about half a million dollars.

Many men are still making a living by fishing, particularly on Washington Island, but the catch is now only a small part of what it was. The better price obtained, however, makes the gross revenue from this industry about the same. A. Kalmbach pays about one hundred thousand dollars for fish annually. The fishermen of Washington Island and the northern part of the county sell their catch at Green Bay. The total revenue from the fish industry is about two hundred and fifty thousand dollars per year.

#### THE TIMBER INDUSTRY

I am not sure that Door County lumbering should be classified as an industry. Perhaps it would be more correct to classify it as a work of destruction. One definition of the word is that "Industry is human exertion of any kind employed for the creation of wealth." If we abide by this definition we must reject lumbering in Door County as an industry. Almost every lumber operator in the history of the county has failed in business. One of the first, and the largest lumber operator in the county was F. B. Gardner who started a mill in 1855. His mill at Little Sturgeon sawed and shipped almost sixty million feet of lumber annually. Yet Mr. Gardner failed in business three times. Other early mills were Crandall & Bradley's, D. H. Burtis' and R. & P. Graham's at Sturgeon Bay. All these mills failed. They were succeeded by S. D. Clark, the Sturgeon Bay Lumber Co. and others, nearly all of whom failed. In different parts of the county have been many smaller mills, most of which failed sooner or later.

If most of the lumber operators made little or no money in this business, the farmers who had logs to sell made less. Splendid body pine without knots was sold at \$1.50 to \$5 per 1,000 feet. In July, 1858, W. H. Warren sold 20,000 feet of pine logs at \$1.25 per 1,000

and Antoni Thompson sold 74,000 feet at \$1.50 per 1,000. This of course did not pay for the hauling.

The most successful mill owners in Door County have been Geo. O. Spear and Chas. Scofield Co., later known as Leathem & Smith. They operated mills at Red River and other places in the southern half of the county and also on Chambers Island and while they did not get rich at it, they were able to dodge bankruptcy. At Tornado in the southern part of the county Chas. Scofield had one of the largest shingle mills in the county, sawing upwards of a million shingles daily.

While the "royal pine" of Door County has beggared almost every one that touched him, his sister trees have been more charitable. The maple, the beach and even the hemlock have brought considerable wealth into the county. In the interior counties of the state the pioneer was obliged with infinite toil to roll his maples together and burn them. In Door County, however, thanks to the ease of shipping by water, he was able to split them up and sell them as cordwood. The great abundance of cedar, growing mostly on the lowlands on the eastern side of the peninsula, was also a source of considerable income to the farmers in winter time. The earliest operator in cedar was D. H. Rice who about 1850 started to get out cedar in a small way at Rawleys Bay. He was followed in 1855 by Levi Thorp at Egg Harbor and Asa Thorp at Fish Creek who shipped very large quantities of cedar and cordwood over their own piers. By 1882 there were no less than sixty piers in Door County, shipping cordwood, ties, posts and hemlock bark. Some of these piers shipped five to six thousand cords of wood annually. The gross receipts from these shipments in the best years amounted to about one million two hundred thousand dollars. This was a very respectable figure in view of the exceedingly low prices which were paid for forest products during the '70s and '80s when the industry was at its height. The following price list advertised by Horn & Joseph in 1880 shows the average price that was paid in those years:

Maple wood, sawed, per cord .....	\$2.12 $\frac{1}{2}$
Birch wood, sawed, per cord .....	1.62 $\frac{1}{2}$
Split and 4" round cedar posts, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' long..	.02
5" round cedar posts, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' long.....	.02 $\frac{3}{4}$
9" round cedar posts, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' long.....	.04 $\frac{1}{2}$
Cedar ties, 6"x6"x8' .....	.15
Hemlock ties, 6"x6"x8'.....	.11



Cedar poles, 25' long, 6" top.....	.37½
Cedar poles, 25' long, 4" top.....	.25
Hemlock bark, per cord.....	3.00

The hemlock logs after they were peeled were usually left to rot in the woods. Sometimes a market was found for them at \$2 per 1,000 feet.

The reader will no doubt think these prices are excessively low. Yet they sometimes went lower than these. In 1877, for instance, maple wood was worth only \$1.62½ per cord delivered on the pier. Telegraph poles and other cedar products were practically worthless. One buyer in 1876 sent a cargo of telegraph poles to Chicago. When he received his pay he lacked \$60 of paying the freight!

Notwithstanding these small prices the pioneer was so accustomed to struggle with his cordwood and ties in the deep snow, and so welcome was the little check he finally received some time the following fall, that he dreaded to think what would become of him when the cordwood would be gone. But fortune did not smile on him until the last stick was cut and the sun came in to make the grass grow for his cows. Then, at last, came prosperity to Door County.

The largest operator in cedar timber was Joseph Smith, of Jacksonport, called the "Cedar King of Door County." One season he shipped seventy cargoes of cedar. This was in 1879. His shipments amounted to \$150,000 per year. Chas. Reynolds, also of Jacksonport, was also a large and successful cedar and cordwood operator. Horn & Joseph, who had one pier at Horn's Pier, another at St. Joseph (later called Lily Bay), and a third at Whitefish Bay, all connected by a private telegraph line, were also immense shippers of wood and cedar. This branch of the timber industry was handled in a different manner from the lumber business. It involved practically no equipment and but little capital and was more profitable.

A large part of Door County was originally covered with white pine. Where Sturgeon Bay is now built was once a magnificent pine forest with huge trees measuring three and four feet in diameter. For an account of a tree that measured three feet in diameter ninety feet from the ground and scaled 10,000 feet of lumber, see the chapter on Clay Banks.

## FARMING

While an advance guard of farmers invaded the woods and felled the trees preparatory to making farms as early as 1856, there was no farming worth mentioning until about 1870, and less than half of the present farms produced any crops whatever before 1880. Little by little the farmers' clearings grew until by the close of the century almost all the land fit for tillage was cleared. At the present time Door County is second to none in productiveness. More than 70 per cent of the population of the county now live on farms of which 60 per cent are free from mortgages.

Door County successfully grows all kinds of crops grown elsewhere in the state. It also grows several special crops which are but little grown elsewhere. Chief among these are peas. Owing to unusually favorable climatic conditions peas are grown more abundantly here than in any other county in the Middle West. Door County grows twice as many peas as the next largest pea growing county in the state, and almost one-half of the peas grown in the state are grown here. This is one of the chief centers for growing seed peas in the United States. The price of peas is also very gratifying. In 1916 and 1917 \$5.25 per bushel was paid for marrowfats, and \$4.00 per bushel for field peas. The pea crop for 1916 amounted to almost 500,000 bushels which sold for almost two million dollars. The value of all farm crops (live stock and dairy products excepted) was more than three million dollars.

The farmers of Door County have lately directed most of their energies to dairying. The cool climate, the excellent water, the abundant yields of clover and other grasses have made the county particularly suited to dairying. There are now about twenty-eight thousand head of cattle in the county, not including young stock less than a year old. This makes about seven head of cattle for every family in the county. The value of the dairy products is more than one million two hundred thousand dollars.

In the creation of this wealth the cheese factories have been a large factor. Owing to the absence of certain milk bacteria which interferes with the most successful fermentation and curing of cheese in other parts of the state, Door County is rapidly obtaining the flattering reputation of producing the best American cheese in the market. There are now more than sixty cheese factories in the county and new factories are fast being built all over the county.

Most of this cheese is bought by Pauly & Pauly who during the

summer months are paying \$25,000 per week to the farmers of Door County. Their local representative states that the cheese bought by them in Door County will amount to more than one million dollars for the year 1917. Many cheese factories in the southern part of the county sell to other commission houses so that the total value of the cheese manufactured in the county is considerably in excess of the above amount. A number of new factories are now being opened in the northern and southwestern parts of the county.

It is probable that the cheese production in the vicinity of Sturgeon Bay will be curtailed, due to the severe competition started by a milk condensing factory which was opened July 1, 1917, in Sawyer. The officials in charge of this business curtly refuse to give any information concerning their business which has been asked for for the purpose of embodying in this history. For some reason they appear to dread publicity. It is reported, however, that they at present are operating sixteen milk routes daily, from Forestville on the south to Carlsville on the north. These sixteen trucks and wagons bring in about fifty thousand pounds of milk daily. The price paid is from \$2.50 to \$3.00 per hundred pounds, which makes almost thirteen hundred dollars per day, or nearly five hundred thousand dollars per year. Adding the value of the cheese industry, the condensing industry and the not inconsiderable amount of butter sold there is no doubt that the returns from the dairy industry is more than one million six hundred thousand dollars per year.

According to the U. S. census of 1910, the value of the dairy products of Door County in that year was \$353,484. This is probably an error as it seems improbable that this industry can have increased in value more than 400 per cent in seven years.

#### FRUIT GROWING

The earliest attempt at commercial horticulture in Door County was made by Dr. E. M. Thorpe on Strawberry Island near Fish Creek. In 1865 Dr. Thorpe cleared the island and planted most of it—more than twenty acres—to grapes. For a few years the grapes did moderately well but when the doctor moved away the whole island soon relapsed into a wilderness.

The earliest farm orchards of which there are any records are those of Joseph Zettel and Robert Laurie. Zettel began setting out trees in 1862. Laurie must have begun just as early. At the first county fair, held in the old courthouse, October 20, 1869, Robert



APPLES RAISED IN THE ORCHARD OF A. L. HATCH  
"The McMahan's White," originated by Mr. Hatch



Laurie exhibited thirteen varieties of apples, for which he received much praise.

In 1866 several commercial orchards were started in the county. J. J. Pinney at this time traded a tract of land in Ohio which he had never seen for a large quantity of fruit trees. These were shipped to Sturgeon Bay and sold to the farmers. The biggest investor in these trees was Joseph Zettel who by this time had become an enthusiastic fruitgrower. After a few years Mr. Zettel had forty-five acres planted to apples, this being the largest apple orchard in the state for many years. In 1892 he harvested 3,000 bushels of apples. The next year he had a big exhibit of more than twenty varieties at the world's fair in Chicago.

Unfortunately, notwithstanding this demonstration of successful conditions, fruit growing was as yet a side line and the care of the trees was indifferent. The varieties were largely unsuited to the markets. Nevertheless Mr. Joseph Zettel is entitled to great credit for having by persistent and abundant planting demonstrated Door County's fitness for growing fruit.

About this time Door County's favorable conditions for fruit growing as successfully demonstrated by Joseph Zettel and others began to attract the attention of certain men who were soon to make Door County famous as a fruit growing region. In 1891 Door County was visited by Mr. A. L. Hatch and Prof. E. S. Goff. Mr. Hatch was a large commercial fruit grower of Richland County and Professor Goff was professor in horticulture at the University of Wisconsin. They were pleased with the evidences of unusually favorable climatic conditions for growing fruit, as shown by several small plantings of plums, apples and cherries in different parts of the county and were particularly impressed with Mr. Zettel's testimony that for forty years he had never suffered injury from a spring frost. They, therefore, bought eighty acres of land, about a mile north of the city. This land was on a stony ridge of land stretching northward from the city, a pine slashing, which up to that time had not been considered valuable for farming purposes. But Mr. Hatch with his indomitable energy immediately proceeded to grub up the stumps, bury the stones and soon converted the wilderness into the highest priced lands in Door County.

In 1893 they set out six acres of plums of European and Japanese varieties, some mixed cherries and pears and 50,000 apple grafts. In 1894 and 1895 they added ten acres of plums, set out more apple grafts and many strawberry plants. In 1896 they began to plant

the sour cherries which was to become such a famous factor in Door County's industries and publicity. They set out three acres of cherries this year. They also set out eight acres of apples, one variety of which, then new to the county, later became the most popular. This was the Wealthy.

W. I. Lawrence also began to plant cherries, one-half acre, in 1896. In 1897 A. W. Lawrence planted five acres of cherries. It was this orchard which after some years of neglect became the most profitable and famous orchard in Door County. D. E. Bingham who had for some years worked for Mr. Hatch, became his partner in 1895, and later, as successful fruitgrower and public speaker at farmers' institutes, became the most widely known orchardist of the state. Professor Goff withdrew from the partnership in 1898. Messrs Hatch and Bingham, however, continued to plant trees and operate the nursery from which most of the important orchards in the county got their first plantings. Mr. Hatch did not become a permanent resident in the county until 1898.

Up to this time and for several years afterward the plantings had been confined to the immediate vicinity of Sturgeon Bay. The first commercial planting in the northern part of the county was made in 1894 by L. D. Thorp at Egg Harbor. His trees were nearly all summer apples, for which there was but little demand. The next planter was H. R. Holand at Ephraim. In 1899 he set out six acres of winter apples, which was followed three or four years later by a much larger acreage of the same fruit trees. In 1903 Dr. Eames of Egg Harbor began his plantings which shortly became very extensive. About this time William Marshall, D. E. Bingham, N. C. Jacobs and Geo. Christianson, all large growers near Sturgeon Bay, set out their large orchards.

For a few years this work of setting out orchards continued in a quiet way by a small number of men who had faith in Door County's special fitness for growing fruit. Their enterprise did not attract much attention, however, because horticulture is a waiting game. Eventually the orchards of A. L. Hatch, W. I. Lawrence and A. W. Lawrence, for many years the big three in Door County horticulture, began to yield crops. In 1908, 1909 and 1910 these crops become fabulously great and Door County received national attention. This peninsula, formerly supposed to be a land of pine forests and icebergs, began to produce luscious cherries by the carloads, with such returns per acre as to be quite unbelievable. Below is a statement copied from

a pamphlet entitled "The Truth About Fruitgrowing in Wisconsin," published by the Wisconsin Horticultural Society in 1914:

"Seventeen years ago a man planted 600 cherry trees. He lacked faith. The trees were neglected for seven years. The neighbors of the man took care of their trees and waxed rich. The man was wise and sought counsel of his neighbors who said: 'Spray, cultivate, prune, cultivate, spray and prune.'

"The man sprayed, cultivated and pruned, cultivated, pruned, and sprayed as exhorted.

"Fifty of the trees had already died but the remaining 550 in nine years yielded 848,792 quarts of cherries which brought the man a net revenue of \$21,218.80. One year the trees bore 48,144 quarts, which sold for \$4,724.18. It cost the man \$1,878.28 to cultivate, prune, spray and to pick and market the fruit, leaving \$3,850.85 net profit, an average net return of \$609.24 an acre.

"In 1911 the average net return was \$388.82 an acre and in 1910 \$558.90 an acre.

"Here is the story for nine years:

1905	.....	1,981 crates
1906	.....	1,972 crates
1907	.....	2,121 crates
1908	.....	2,060 crates
1909	.....	3,447 crates
1910	.....	2,745 crates
1911	.....	2,194 crates
1912	.....	3,009 crates
1913	.....	2,008 crates

"The man is A. W. Lawrence of Sturgeon Bay, the orchard is just back of his house. Other orchards nearby yielded nearly as much."

As a result of this success, which was practically equalled by Bingham, Hatch and W. I. Lawrence, there now, in 1908, began a boom in fruit growing which lasted for several years. Huge wagon loads of two-year-old fruit trees were to be seen in springtime on every cross road. They were sometimes planted with dynamite rending the rock in fragments and sometimes they were rammed into the soil with a crowbar. Vast areas of wild land were feverishly conquered by every human and mechanical device and set out to cherry trees. Others had not the patience to plant new orchards but bought other





orchards set out a few years, paying from five hundred to one thousand dollars per acre for them. Every back yard and stone pile had its bunch of cherry trees.

Chief among these plantations were a number of large corporations which set out hundreds of acres of cherry trees. The first was the Sturgeon Bay Orchard and Nursery Co., which in 1910 set out forty acres in cherries. They now have 160 acres of cherries and apples. In 1911 the Co-operative Orchard Co. planted 200 acres of cherries. They now have about seven hundred acres of cherries in one body, being the biggest cherry orchard in the world. The Reynolds Preserving Co. planted sixty acres in 1911. They soon had about three hundred fifty acres but now only about two hundred acres in cherries. The Ellison Bay Orchard Co. planted fifty-six acres in 1911. They now have 210 acres in fruit, mostly in apples. The Peninsula Fruit Farm Co. planted 110 acres in 1912. They now have 210 acres in cherries and apples. The Sturgeon Bay Fruit Co. have about eighty acres in cherries and apples and so has the Cady Land Co. Many other growers have more than forty acres in orchards.

There is now in Door County a total of 5,460 acres planted to fruit. Of these we have 3,270 acres in cherries, 1,900 acres in apples and about three hundred acres in small berries, particularly strawberries.

The cherry acreage is distributed as follows:

	Acres
Sturgeon Bay and Sevastopol.....	2,262
Sawyer and vicinity.....	344
Egg Harbor .....	258
Gibraltar .....	180
Liberty Grove and Sister Bay.....	186
Washington Island .....	49
Baileys Harbor .....	31
Jacksonport .....	15
Total .....	3,270

The cherries are about equally divided between Early Richmond and Montmorency.

There is at present (1917) a total of 95,000 apple trees growing in the county. Of these there are 27,000 Wealthy, 18,000 McIntosh, 12,000 N. W. Greening, 5,200 Fameuse, 4,000 Duchess, 8,600 Dud-



ley, 3,400 McMahan, 3,000 Wolf River, 1,300 Windsor, 17,500 in other varieties.

In 1917 there was shipped through the fruit exchange 103,000 crates of cherries. Private shippers disposed of about twelve thousand crates. This required no less than two hundred and thirty railroad cars to haul it away, and the value of this cherry crop was about one hundred eighty-five thousand dollars. The fruit exchange also shipped 8,514 crates of strawberries, 2,675 crates of currants and 1,186 crates of gooseberries. Private shippers would increase these figures by at least 5 per cent. The small fruit brought in about twenty-five thousand dollars. No statistics are available for the value or extent of the apple crop, but it may safely be put at thirty thousand dollars. The total value of Door County's fruit crop in 1917 is therefore not less than two hundred fifty thousand dollars. As most of the orchards are only in the infancy of their fruitfulness it will not be long before the fruit production of the county will pass the million dollar mark.

The boom has now ceased. A few of the smaller orchards which were planted in unsuitable locations or which have been neglected will be cut down. The biggest orchards will no doubt be divided into smaller tracts as it is too much of an undertaking for any one manager to handle such huge plantations. Nearly all the orchards of Door County are in the immediate vicinity of Sturgeon Bay, Egg Harbor, Fish Creek, Ephraim and Ellison Bay. The southern part of the county, with its heavy clay soil, has been found less adapted to fruit growing.

The chief reason why Door County possesses such marked advantages over the rest of the state for producing fruit is its peculiar climatic conditions caused by its insular location. The modifying influence of the waters and ice of Lake Michigan and Green Bay gives the peninsula a cold, backward spring. It is generally considered that this retards bloom until the frosts are over. The fact is, rather, that it prevents a rapid, tender growth that would not be sufficiently hardy to endure subsequent frosts. Further south there is too little steady cold; fruit trees burst quickly into bloom with the advent of warm days, and the tender growth succumbs to subsequent frosts. In Door County the buds come on very slowly; often it is several weeks from the time they first swell until full bloom. During that time they strengthen and become hardy. Further south what we consider hardy vegetables like the cabbage, the onion or beet are sometimes destroyed by frost on account of their rapid, tender growth. In the fall of the year we have another effect of the waters which so



modify the temperature that there is a long time when frosts are not severe enough to destroy the leaves, but allows them to do their work to the fullest extent, ripening the twigs, storing surplus food for spring use, **hardening and perfecting the buds.** Thus our climate helps at both ends of the season. Fruits of this region are fine keepers and good shippers on account of the climate, and this is a valuable factor in commercial fruit culture.

Fruit growing has now become an established industry in Door County. Not only is the climate remarkably favorable but the cherry trees are also more immune to insect pests here than elsewhere. The cherry curculio and other causes of wormy cherries, for instance, are unknown here. Similarly apple trees do better here than anywhere else in the Middle West. While we can grow almost any variety the most successful in a commercial sense have been found to be N. W. Greening, Wealthy, McIntosh, Snow, Duchess and Dudley.

Door County has also been fortunate in having had excellent teachers in fruit growing. Due to the intelligent and thorough example of A. L. Hatch, D. E. Bingham, A. W. Lawrence and W. I. Lawrence, the fruitgrowers of the county have learned that it pays to cultivate and spray. The result is that nowhere can be found better orchard treatment. More than one-half of all the spraying outfits in the state are here in Door County.

#### THE STONE INDUSTRY

Door County's first export consisted of stone. In 1834 the Federal Government began to quarry stone at the Government bluff at the mouth of Sturgeon Bay. This stone was used to build the breakwaters of Michigan City. Since then millions of tons of Door County stone have been used in harbor improvement. Almost every harbor on Lake Michigan has been built in part with Door County stone.

Occasional shipments of stone have been made from Door County at very early dates. Alanson Sweet, a vessel owner and commission man in Milwaukee, in 1849, opened a quarry at Baileys Harbor, whose founder he was, and took a number of cargoes of stone to Milwaukee in the following two or three years. A stone quarry was also opened at Door Bluff as early as 1854 by some men from Green Bay. The character of the rock found there led to the belief that it contained marble of fine quality for building purposes and preparations were made for extensive operations in the product. Village lots were laid out on the summit of the bluff, and a large pier was



constructed. The marble proved to be a delusion, however, and the works were abandoned after a few cargoes had been shipped. The foundations of the ill-fated Newhall House, Milwaukee's large and elegant hotel, were built of stone quarried at this quarry in 1856. This hotel was destroyed by fire in 1882 and about one hundred of its inmates perished in the flames.<sup>1</sup>

The stone quarry started by Mr. Sweet at Baileys Harbor was re-opened in 1868 and for a few seasons large quantities of stone were shipped to the east shore of Lake Michigan.

The stone industry is generally said to have been started by Robert Laurie and his son, John. In 1880 the Laurie Stone Quarry was opened up and about nine hundred cords of stone were shipped from this quarry in that year. A large part of this was building stone which was taken to Marinette and retailed to builders in that and neighboring towns. In the same year L. R. McLachlan opened a quarry. He shipped about the same amount of stone. His stone, however, was shipped across Lake Michigan and used by the Government for harbor construction. McLachlan's quarry was operated for a time by the Washington Ice Company and is now known as the Sturgeon Bay Stone Company.

Early in the eighties Frank Hogan opened a stone quarry in the Government Bluff at the mouth of Sturgeon Bay. Being only a squatter on this land he was driven off, whereupon he started a quarry in Sawyer. This is now known as the Green Stone Company. In 1893 Leathem & Smith opened their quarry at the mouth of the bay. This has since become the largest crushed stone plant in the state, having a capacity of 1,000 tons of crushed stone per day.

Since the crushing machines have been added to the plant the waste of years is being utilized. There are fully two hundred fifty thousand cubic yards of chips in one large pile extending along the north end of the quarry which accumulated during the years.

These chips are loaded into cars by a steam shovel, each car containing four cubic yards or five tons of stone, and conveyed to the crushing plant by the "dinky" locomotive. The cars dump direct into the large crusher, which chews and crunches and appears to masticate and swallow the entire five tons in four minutes. An apparently endless string of cars is being dumped continually into the mouth of this massive machine.

From the main crusher the product is carried by pocket and belt

<sup>1</sup> For the origin of the "Pictured Rocks of Door Bluff," see the account of Ellison Bay and Beyond in the chapter on Liberty Grove.



conveyors to screens where the stone is washed and assorted into the various sizes and the stone which came through too large is returned to two smaller crushers where it is re-crushed.

There are five sizes of crushed stone. From the screens the product is carried by means of chutes into separate bins and carried out from these bins by tunnel and piling conveyors to stock piles. By a tunnel conveyor the stock is loaded on the boats. The greater part of this stone is sold to various towns who use it for building concrete and macadam roads.

In connection with the crushed stone plant is the stone quarry proper, from which is derived the rubble stone and rip-rap, which is used entirely in breakwater work and by the Government.

Rubble stone is used for curb work and is called one-man stone, weighing between 50 and 100 pounds. Rip-rap stone each weigh from two to five tons, are used for the same purpose as the rubble, and are handled and loaded by a derrick.

An interesting part of the quarry work is the blasting in which a ton or more of dynamite is used in one explosion, throwing down 20,000 tons of rock in a single blast.

The present face of the quarry is about fifty feet in height and a drill machine works along the top boring 6-inch holes fifty feet deep to the base. A series of probably ten holes are drilled and loaded with dynamite. When the explosion occurs it appears as though the whole side of a mountain had been blown away. Eventually the quarry will have a 70-foot face.

The apparent success of these early stone quarry companies induced a number of others to follow their example. In the '80s and '90s stone quarries were opened at Ephraim, Mud Bay, Ellison Bay, Garrets Bay, Washington Island and other points, and for a short time a large amount of stone was quarried. After a few years of doubtful success these last mentioned quarries were all closed.

#### THE CANNING INDUSTRY

In 1896 the Reynolds Preserving Company started their large pea cannery. This was one of the first three canneries in the state and the first one to introduce the vining system. Other factories at this time had no provisions for vining the peas. At first the vining was done at the central plant, but later a number of vining stations were established. The first factory was a part of the present Goodrich warehouse. Two hundred thousand cans were put up the first season and

about fifty persons were employed in the factory. In 1907 the output was 8,309,000 cans and about two hundred persons were employed in the factory.

The canning company used to rent a great deal of land on which to grow their peas. The lowest rent paid was \$8 per acre. In 1907, 2,200 acres were rented at a cost of \$22,000. All the work was done by the company. The crop is uncertain, however, only one in four having been found satisfactory. One year 2,500 acres were sown by them of which only 1,000 acres yielded sufficiently to induce cutting.

Because of these and other uncertainties the Reynolds Preserving Company is not pushing the canning of peas as energetically as formerly. Moreover, in order to improve the quality of the output the vining stations have been discontinued.

In 1917 the canning company began to can cherries. Thirty-three thousand crates were contracted for. The Reynolds Preserving Company has a capital stock of \$100,000.

In 1902 Louis Reichel started a cannery in Sawyer under the name of the Door County Canning Company, which later was purchased by the Van Camp Company. The largest output of this cannery was 2,000,000 cans in 1907. This cannery has had a rather checkered existence and was finally closed up. In 1917 the Van Camp Company opened it again as a factory for condensed milk.

#### THE SHIPBUILDING INDUSTRY

Millions of feet of lumber have been used in Door County in the construction of boats. The vast majority of these, hundreds of them, have, of course, been small tubs, pound boats used by the fisherman. Many more ambitious crafts have been built, however, and there is now in Sturgeon Bay a shipyard employing hundreds of men.

The first shipbuilder in Door County was George Lovejoy, one of the earliest settlers of little Rock Island. About 1850 he built a trim little vessel which is described by old settlers as having been a very good sailor and was used for freighting. In 1859 the Laurin Brothers built a schooner named the Peninsula, described by others as "a model of beauty and one of the fastest sailors on Green Bay." They also built the Belle Laurie and the Katie Laurie.

The most interesting boat builder of Door County was old Capt. David Clow of Chambers Island. He settled on Chambers Island about 1850 and built a number of schooners, among them being the Pocohontas, the Sarah Clow, and the Lewis Day. The

Sarah Clow was launched in 1862 and had a 120-foot keel, measuring 285 tons. The Lewis Day was launched in 1868, was 155 feet long and was at that time one of the largest vessels on the Great Lakes. The Sarah Clow was built entirely by the captain and his good wife, who together cut down the oaks of Chambers Island, ripped them into boards and planks with a whip-saw and stitched the vessel together with wooden trummels. For an account of this amazing achievement and for the captain's wonderful rescue of his vessel when she was thrown high and dry up into an Ohio swamp by a hurricane on Lake Erie, the reader is referred to the Chapter on Chambers Island.

At Little Sturgeon where F. B. Gardner had a big sawmill and several other industries a number of fine vessels were built just after the Civil war. Mr. Gardner was the owner of the shipbuilding plant which for a time employed a couple of hundred men, but Thomas Spear was the shipbuilder. Mr. Spear was an expert ship carpenter having built many salt-water vessels in Maine. Assisted by his sons, George and Marshall Spear, he in the years 1866 to 1871, built the vessel long known as the James G. Blaine, also the tug John Spry, the Schooners Halstead, Ellen Spry and the J. W. Doane. He also rebuilt several large vessels. Some of the vessels named above were very large, carrying as much as seven hundred thousand feet of lumber.<sup>1</sup>

In giving an account of early shipbuilding, mention must also be made of the City of Podunk, built by Henry Schuyler, Sr., in 1867. She was the first steamcraft built in Door County, and was an odd and primitive craft, her construction and appearance being a wonder of modern maritime construction. She was a side wheeler, her shaft being a stout oak log. As the City of Podunk, particularly her engine, was of a bashful and sedentary disposition, it was necessary for the mate to climb up on her paddles to furnish the impulse of starting.

The biggest single business in Door County at present is Rieboldt & Wolter's Shipyard at Sturgeon Bay. This is said to be the best equipped plant on the Great Lakes for building wooden vessels. This business was started in Sturgeon Bay in 1896 by the present firm, who for eleven years previously had operated a similar plant in Sheboygan. When they started in Sturgeon Bay they employed about twenty to thirty men. One of their first jobs was to build a 110-foot fire tug for the City of Milwaukee. Most of their work, however, has

<sup>1</sup> For further information on the shipbuilding at Little Sturgeon, see the chapter entitled The Golden Age of Little Sturgeon.

been that of overhauling and repairing vessels and building drydocks. Hundreds of vessels have here limped in lame and shabby, and after a few weeks' treatment by expert mechanics have sailed off dapper and jauntily. This work has in some seasons given employment to more than two hundred men, particularly in winter. Many of the weary cruisers who have come here for repairs have been found to be in such an advanced stage of dilapidation that their owners have not cared to incur the repair bill or even to take their derelicts away. Many of these therefore now lie in the water around the shipyard in picturesque desolation—a graveyard of ancient crafts that have breasted many a storm.

Besides repairing vessels the Rieboldt & Wolter Shipyards have also built many drydocks. A very large one, costing \$60,000, has just been built for Toronto, whither it was towed in three sections. The firm is at present building an immense vessel, measuring 264 feet in length, intended for ocean traffic. The boat is built entirely of oak and when completed will contain 800,000 feet of that lumber. It has been taken over by the Government.

#### THE SUMMER RESORT BUSINESS

There probably never was a time when Door County was not admired for its scenery or enjoyed for its salubrious climate. As early as 1865 and 1866 we find the county mentioned as a place sure to attract the attention of tourists. Wm. B. Lawrence, who owned the Cedar Street Hotel in Sturgeon Bay, was so confident of this that he, in 1866, enlarged his hotel for the express purpose of catering to this class of trade.

The cities of the Middle West were as yet too new, however, to have a tourist class. Therefore, while the charms of Door County were all in readiness, the sightseers did not yet exist to come and view them.

The first summer hotel in Door County was built on the north side of Sawyer Harbor, now commonly called Idlewild. Sawyer Harbor is in the Town of Nasewaupée at the mouth of Sturgeon Bay. Here, more than forty years previously, old Peter Sherwood had reared his cabin in 1838, doubtless attracted by its exquisite beauty. On one side rises Government Bluff, somber and mysterious with unexplored caves and grinning skulls of ancient Indian braves; on the other, Sherwoods Point throws a protecting arm with gravelly beaches shielding from the northern gales this sylvan retreat with its

pretty islands, where the partridges used to parade the beach with their little ones. On the exact spot now occupied by Cabot's Lodge J. T. Wright in 1879 built the first summer hotel in Door County. The building was about 125 feet long and quickly proved its usefulness. It had accommodations for about forty guests and was generally filled to capacity. The first resorter to enter his name on the register was Charles Henrotin, a very well known real estate man in Chicago. He proposed the name of Idlewild for the hotel, by which name it was afterwards known. Later this name was fixed to the whole vicinity. Among other early distinguished guests was also Mrs. Sartoris, a daughter of President U. S. Grant.

The Idlewild also did a good business in the winter. There were for some years two large icehouses on Sherwood Point and the many men employed by the ice companies found lodgment here. In summertime Mrs. Sartoris could be seen approaching the table with queenly dignity, her long train carried by a maid or two, while the conventional prattle of other guests would be deflected behind sheltering fans to comment sotto voce on the developing scandal of her frisky husband. In winter burly icemen in overalls and shoe-pacs would feast at the same tables, but on a more substantial diet of pork and beans, while the noisy conversation dwelt on such masculine themes as the trapping of wolves and the extent of the ice cut.

This hotel was destroyed by fire in 1890 and was not rebuilt, as Mrs. Wright was by that time a widow and did not care to resume the arduous labor of the business unaided. The old Haines homestead was close by Idlewild and Melvin Haines now began to cater to the tourist business. He built a new hotel building in 1893.

In the meantime occasional summer visitors had discovered the rare beauties of Ephraim and Fish Creek. For a time they found comfortable lodgings in the homes of the people there, but as there was a steady increase of summer boarders it was necessary to build larger buildings to accommodate them. Immediately before and after the year 1900 a number of large summer hotels were built in Ephraim and Fish Creek and these villages have since been the favorite resorts on the peninsula.

The following is a list of the summer hotels at present in operation, with their capacity and ownership:

At Sturgeon Bay. -The Cove, accommodates 200, M. E. Lawrence, Prop.; Sylvan Lodge, accommodates 15, H. E. Dankoler, Prop.; Mac Villa, accommodates 30, W. A. McEacham, Prop.; Hansons Villa, accommodates 20, F. S. Hanson, Prop.



IDLEWILD, FIRST SUMMER HOTEL IN DOUG COUNTY



At Idlewild.—Idlewild Inn, accommodates 100, Miss Ella Haines, Prop.; The Pines, accommodates 60, N. A. Haines, Prop.; Cabot's Lodge, accommodates 250, Cabot Bros., Prop.

At Fish Creek.—Hotel Thorp, accommodates 125, E. C. Thorp, Prop.; Family Summer Resort, accommodates 150, Dr. H. C. Welckers, Prop.; Central Hotel, accommodates 50, Mrs. J. J. Barringer, Prop.; The Nook Hotel, accommodates 50, Ed. Schrieber, Prop.; Bay Beach Hotel, accommodates 80, M. H. Stevens, Prop.; Camp Meenagha, accommodates 60, Mrs. Clark, Prop.

At Ephraim.—Anderson Hotel, accommodates 100, Mrs. H. A. Anderson, Prop.; Evergreen Beach, accommodates 75, F. Hogenson, Prop.; Eagle Inn, accommodates 150, Mrs. B. D. Thorp, Prop.; Hillside Resort, accommodates 40, O. M. Olson, Prop.; Edgewater Lodge, accommodates 90, E. Helgeson, Prop.; Pine Grove Resort, accommodates 50, Mrs. A. Olson, Prop.; Knudson's Hotel, accommodates 40, P. Knudson, Prop.

At Sister Bay.—Liberty Park Hotel, accommodates 40, Victor Matrugren, Prop.; Forest Idyll, accommodates 40, T. Fichtner, Prop.; Liberty Grove Hotel, accommodates 80, John Warachek, Prop.; Birchwood Hotel, accommodates 60, Andrew Knutson, Prop.; Hotel De Nord, accommodates 75, Miss J. Anderson, Prop.

At Ellison Bay.—Hillside Hotel, accommodates 80, M. Anderson, Prop.

At Garrett Bay.—Garrett Bay Inn, accommodates 75, Mrs. A. Nelson, Prop.

At Gills Rock.—Lakeside Hotel, accommodates 80, E. J. Landin, Prop.

At Baileys Harbor.—Old Homestead Inn, accommodates 80, Burns & Eatough, Props.; Scenic Grove Resort, accommodates 40, Mrs. John Anclam, Prop.; Evergreen Camp, accommodates 50, Mrs. J. A. Wilson, Prop.

At Horseshoe Bay.—Horseshoe Bay Country Club, accommodates 90, Horseshoe Bay Country Club, Prop.

On Washington Island.—Pine Beach Retreat, accommodates 12, Mrs. T. Engelson, Prop.; Idaho Inn, accommodates 50, B. L. Anderson, Prop.; Carl Richter's, accommodates 12, Carl Richter, Prop.; Nichols, accommodates 16; West Harbor Hotel, accommodates 50, J. P. Paulson, Prop.; Hotel Washington, accommodates 60, B. Johnson, Prop.; Spring Beach Hotel, accommodates 60, Nor. Shellswick, Prop.

Nearly all these hotels have been started since the year 1900. They



are nearly all doing a crowded business for a short season in summer. Besides these there are also many farmers who cater to summer visitors. Altogether Door County caters to more than two thousand guests per day during the months of July and August. The gross income from this business, including the large number of summer resorters who have private cottages, is about two hundred and fifty thousand dollars per year.

#### THE ICE INDUSTRY

Door County, or rather its surrounding waters, were also for some years a field of operations for many ice companies. In 1876 Albert Marshall Spear who, at that time, owned the Gardner properties at Little Sturgeon Bay made provisions to enter into the ice business. A large ice house was erected and 50,000 tons of ice were stored and shipped. Being unable to handle the business, Mr. Spear sold his interests to the Piper Ice Company. This company erected five large ice houses on the point north of the mill and employed about a hundred men during the winter of 1878 in cutting ice. The following summer they had a fleet of five schooners engaged in carrying ice to Chicago.

This business seems to have been profitable for it was followed by the entrance of a number of other ice companies in the field. In 1880 six ice companies had twelve immense storehouses in and near Sturgeon Bay, and 700 men were employed in cutting ice. This ice industry continued with fair success until 1890. In that year there was a very large amount of ice cut which was held for a rise in price because the quantity obtained on inland lakes further south was small. The price did not rise as fast, however, as the ice sank—by melting—and the result was disastrous to the business. The last concern to enter the ice business in Door County was a company of home people, consisting of John Fetzer, G. W. Young, F. J. and C. Hamilton and John McDonald. They had about sixty men at Horseshoe Bay cutting ice for one season. Like others they held their ice too long and the company disbanded, the ice business proving too chilly a proposition to cling to. Other companies engaged in the ice business in 1890 were the Piper Ice Co., the Washington Ice Co., the Union Ice Co., the Lincoln Ice Co., the Hammond Packing Co., Addis & Co., Spear, Cody & Reynolds and Sibree & Overbeck.

The principal reason why the big ice companies quit this field was another: They found that while an excellent grade of ice could

be obtained here the cost of transportation was too great. Shipping by boat necessitated cartage by wagons to their city storehouses, while the ice obtained on the inland lakes could be sent by rail direct to the storehouse. It is likely that this business will in the future be revived in this county.

## CHAPTER XIX

### BANKING

The first bank in Door County was started in November, 1880. It was an unpretentious private business started by F. J. Shimmel and Joseph Kozishek, two young men from Kewaunee and was housed in a small building on the lot now occupied by the Merchants Exchange Bank. The county at this time had a population of almost twelve thousand people and as there was great need of a banking institution the new firm prospered quickly. Unfortunately Mr. Kozishek was a man who could not bear prosperity with grace. From being a young man of excellent habits his new opportunities led him into habits of self-indulgence and drunkenness and he was rapidly drifting into a demoralized existence. In January, 1881, he visited Chicago where his adventures provided entertainment for the newspaper readers. One night he fell in with a clique of gamblers who quickly fleeced him of \$800. They then turned him over to still more unsavory resorts where he was relieved of about twelve hundred dollars more. In one night he thus spent twenty-one hundred dollars. Returning to Kewaunee he continued his spree with such abandon that finally in a moment of lucid despondency he jumped off the pier in Kewaunee and drowned himself.

When Mr. Shimmel learned of the sad news of his partner's end he felt in no mood to continue the business, as he was in very poor health. He asked no favors, however, because of his partner's defection, but repaid his depositors in full—some twenty-five thousand dollars in all—and retired from business about February 1, 1881.

Immediately after the sudden eclipse of Shimmel & Kozishek a new bank was started by Smith & Nelson who for a short time had been doing a little insurance business. C. M. Smith was the village school principal and C. L. Nelson was a clerk in A. W. Lawrence & Co.'s store in Bay View (Sawyer). Mr. Smith proposed to Mr. Nelson that they enter into the banking business. Mr. Nelson was inclined to treat the proposition as a joke for neither of them had any money. "We can get money," said Mr. Smith. "There is



**OLD STURGEON BAY BANK**

First bank in Door County. Later occupied by Nelson & Smith, bankers. Occupied by Bank of Sturgeon Bay from 1889 to 1895. Site now occupied by new building of Merchants Exchange Bank.



our lumberman friend, Mr. Geo. O. Spear." They went to Mr. Spear and spread the possibilities of the banking business before his vision. But Mr. Spear shook his head. "I know nothing about banking," he said; "anymore than I do about Hebrew and I will not engage in a business of which I am ignorant. However," he added after a pause, "I will let you have the use of \$10,000." This astonishingly liberal offer was received with joy by the new partners, who prepared to give Mr. Spear a note for the amount entrusted to them. However, Mr. Spear declined the note. "If your word is no good your note will be no better," he said.

Smith & Nelson now opened a bank which for five years was successfully operated. In 1886 Mr. Smith went to California for the health of his daughter and while there received the appointment to an important Federal position. He thereupon withdrew from his business in Sturgeon Bay.

Mr. Nelson now induced Mr. Spear to purchase Mr. Smith's interest in the business and the bank was known as Nelson & Spear. Mr. Spear continued as partner until 1891. A company was then formed by C. L. Nelson, A. W. Lawrence, L. M. Washburn and W. A. Lawrence, and the bank took the name of the Merchants Exchange Bank. It was incorporated June 28, 1902, with a capital of \$25,000. An amendment was filed on June 20, 1906, increasing this capital stock to \$50,000. The Merchants Exchange Bank has never paid less than 8 per cent on its stock. The present officers are C. L. Nelson, president; W. A. Lawrence, vice president; C. M. Stephenson, cashier.

Previous to the incorporation of this bank another had been started and incorporated eleven years earlier. This was the Bank of Sturgeon Bay. It was organized as a private bank in February, 1889, and incorporated as a state bank December 1, 1891. This is therefore the oldest incorporated bank in the county. An amendment was filed July 1, 1901, increasing this capital stock to \$30,000. A second amendment was filed May 17, 1916, increasing the capital stock to \$50,000. The officers are: Henry Fetzer, president; Jas. Wolter, vice president, and A. B. Minor, cashier. This bank has for some years paid 10 per cent dividends on its stock.

The Bank of Sawyer was incorporated for \$25,000 on February 4, 1902. An amendment was filed October 20, 1903, reducing this stock to \$20,000. A second amendment was filed on April 16, 1914, increasing the stock to \$50,000, and changing the name to the Door

**County State Bank.** The present officers are: H. L. Peterson, president; J. B. Davis, vice president, and Ino. Boler, cashier.

The State Bank of Forestville was incorporated for \$10,000 on September 7, 1909. An amendment was filed on June 28, 1916, increasing the capital stock to \$25,000.

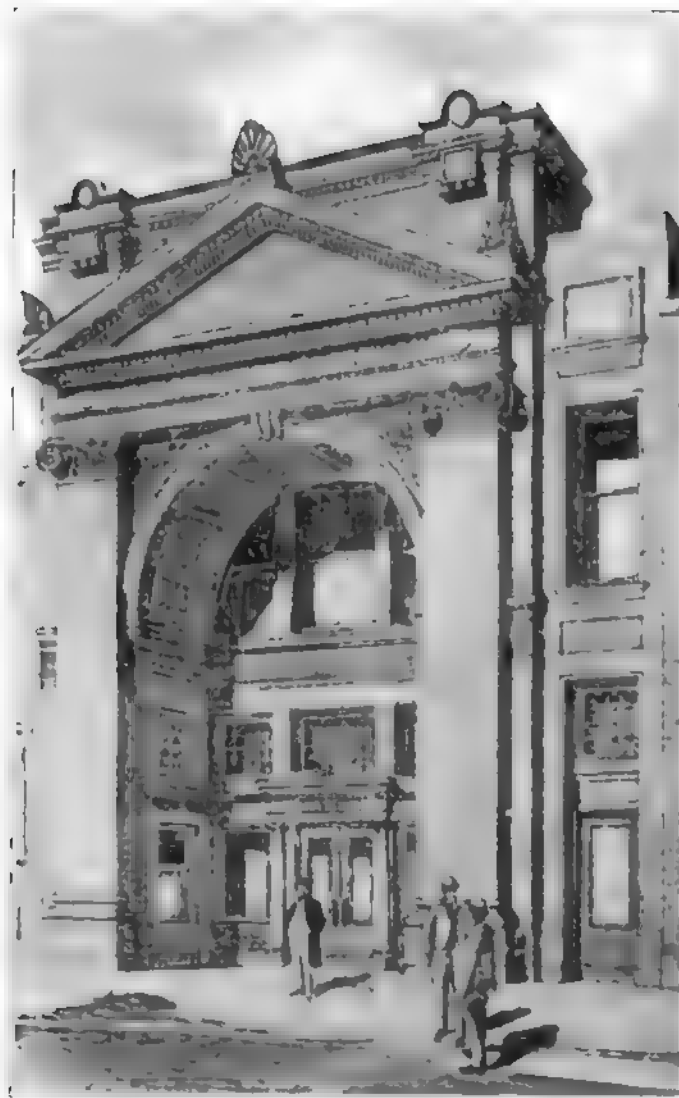
The State Bank of Maplewood was incorporated for \$15,000 on September 16, 1916.

Following is a list of the deposits as taken from the reports of the various banks in the county. Prior to 1895 there were no banking laws in this state and the reports were made to the state treasurer. The first examination by a bank examiner was made in 1895.

These banks are all housed in commodious up-to-date buildings of their own. The Bank of Sturgeon Bay occupies an imposing limestone building valued at \$30,000, built in 1900, and remodeled in 1916. The Door County State Bank has just moved into a very substantial building 94 by 37 feet in size, also valued at \$30,000. The Merchants Exchange Bank occupies a building 25 by 100 feet in size, recently erected and valued at about twenty-five thousand dollars.

Below is a list of the deposits as taken from the reports of the various banks in the county. They total approximately two million two hundred thousand dollars, which is an excellent showing for a county of such recent development as Door County with a population of only seventeen thousand.

Date	Bank of Sturgeon Bay	Merchants Exchange	Door Co. State	Bank of Forestville	Bank of Maplewood
July 1, 1889.....	\$ 17,621.41	\$ 21,116.98	.....	.....	.....
July 1, 1890.....	45,066.48	29,370.74	.....	.....	.....
Jan. 5, 1891.....	70,295.15	25,594.90	.....	.....	.....
July 4, 1892.....	125,531.68	41,521.73	.....	.....	.....
July 5, 1893.....	113,585.22	46,470.39	.....	.....	.....
Jan. 1, 1894.....	72,602.05	35,626.30	.....	.....	.....
Nov. 16, 1895.....	55,891.94	34,560.32	.....	.....	.....
Nov. 21, 1896.....	65,324.01	40,446.51	.....	.....	.....
Nov. 6, 1897.....	78,883.07	48,965.45	.....	.....	.....
Dec. 1, 1898.....	107,096.47	74,213.79	.....	.....	.....
Dec. 3, 1899.....	150,276.00	97,514.11	.....	.....	.....
Dec 10, 1901.....	251,198.33	122,994.86	.....	.....	.....
Nov. 25, 1902.....	311,181.12	155,957.16	14,682.23	.....	.....
Nov. 17, 1903.....	350,682.19	172,455.35	33,079.26	.....	.....
Nov. 10, 1904.....	322,527.11	171,194.45	38,837.90	.....	.....
Nov. 9, 1905.....	332,144.02	156,470.84	48,930.39	.....	.....
Nov. 12, 1906.....	292,260.20	180,711.14	84,861.30	.....	.....
Nov. 7, 1907.....	364,479.68	230,273.49	97,189.64	.....	.....
Nov. 27, 1908.....	398,857.29	273,625.81	128,203.20	.....	.....
Nov. 16, 1909.....	425,674.88	292,706.42	136,968.91	.....	.....
Nov. 10, 1910.....	414,697.47	292,076.64	143,953.65	.....	.....
Dec. 5, 1911.....	457,727.51	307,204.80	125,876.09	.....	.....



DOOR COUNTY STATE BANK, STURGEON BAY





# HISTORY OF DOOR COUNTY

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Date	Bank of Sturgeon Bay	Merchants Exchange	Door Co. State	Bank of Forestville	Bank of Maplewood
Nov. 26, 1912.....	502,875.57	312,274.73	137,714.75	.....	.....
Dec. 1, 1913.....	573,068.07	310,207.23	139,697.01	120,628.55	.....
Dec. 31, 1914.....	668,822.23	338,330.57	157,802.26	155,389.06	.....
Dec. 31, 1915.....	767,708.66	354,593.17	222,774.62	239,929.63	.....
Dec. 27, 1916.....	1,010,357.67	420,137.16	260,087.07	333,583.89	13,429.62
Sept. 11, 1917.....	1,208,955.27	499,250.27	330,315.12	321,112.26	64,600.94

## CHAPTER XX

### DOOR COUNTY HIGHWAYS

Until 1856 there was not a mile of public highway in Door County. A few logging roads had already been cut in the immediate vicinity of Sturgeon Bay but these merely meandered through the woods and led nowhere. In 1856 a public subscription was taken up for the purpose of opening a road from Sturgeon Bay to Green Bay. This "road" was partly cut out the same year by E. S. Fuller and Buck Kimber. O. P. Graham played the role of engineer and pathfinder. It followed the present road to Little Sturgeon Bay, then turned southward and coincided with the Red River Road through the Town of Union. As late as 1869, according to Henry C. Graham, who carried the mail between Sturgeon Bay and Fish Creek for \$125 per year, there was no road between these two villages but only a rough trail through the forest. The present main road through Nasewaupée and Brussels was not laid out until 1867.

For the first twenty years of the county's settlement, or until about 1872, these and other roads, except the Little Sturgeon Road, were mere trails winding through the forest practically impassable for vehicles. Owing to the fact that water navigation was easy and accessible to almost all there was very little interest taken in the construction of roads. In 1864 Senator Joseph Harris secured the adoption of a bill in the Legislature requiring Door County to levy an annual tax, not to exceed three thousand dollars, for the purpose of improving the main traveled roads. A small tax was therefore levied for bridges and culverts and there were hopes that the roads would be gradually improved.

The highways generally continued, however, in a most wretched shape. The stumps were left to rot, little or no grading was done and the bottom lands in particular were in an indescribable state. Here the only sign of a road, in spring or fall, was a deeper mudhole than the surrounding tract showed. Through such bottom lands, as for instance Plum Bottom in the Town of Egg Harbor, the horses would plunge up to their breasts in mud and water.<sup>1</sup> On the highlands the

<sup>1</sup> The Advocate of May 20, 1886, contains the following illuminative account of certain parts of the main county road leading north from the city: "There is a place on the Egg Harbor

highway would often be fenced in so as to leave only a narrow passage 20 feet wide. This would be used as a dumping ground for stone. In winter these narrow alleys, walled in with rail fences, would completely fill up with snow.

The worst roads were in the southern part of the county. Here the deep clay soil and the negligence of the town authorities co-operated in producing a condition of the highways which the early travelers remember with grue. As the worst of these roads for thirty years until the railroad came was the main avenue of access to the county for mail and passengers it made an indelible impression on all who traveled it. In no other particular has Door County made such progress as in the change from those ancient execrable lanes of mud, corduroy and stone to our present smooth and firm macadam roads.

During those years, however, sufficient money was spent on those roads to have paved them with concrete from end to end. The trouble was that the money was practically all misspent. A considerable road tax was levied but it provided for paying this tax in labor. Each town was divided into a number of road districts in charge of an overseer. On a certain day the overseer would call out his men and nearly all would come, for the roadmaking days were about the only picnic and recreation days the old pioneers knew. Seating themselves comfortably in the shade of a tree an animated discussion would soon be in full swing, for all subjects were interesting on roadmaking days. The eccentricities of the weather would be fully elucidated and the condition of the crops would be diagnosed. The merits and faults of a new grain harvester would be made plain and a variety of remedies for blind staggers in horses would be compared. The various scandals of the town would be ventilated and information would be exchanged concerning rheumatism, boils and bunyons. When these and a hundred other topics were threshed out some energetic person would throw a couple of rails into the worst mudhole or snip off a hazel bush. This done the roadmakers would saunter homeward feeling that their obligations toward the roads had been adequately fulfilled for that year. Sometimes the pathmaster would not even "go

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Road north of the John Fehl farm, that is a terror to travelers. The water has been so deep there this spring that at times it covered the backs of the horses and flooded the boxes of vehicles. In going over this submerged piece of road Anton Seligath's wagon was cap-sized and the passengers came near drowning. Mr. Seligath jumped into the water which was up to his armpits and unhitched the horses which safely reached the shore. He then carried the passengers, one of which was a lady of no small weight, on his back to terra firma. If this thing continues it will pay somebody to establish a ferry at this place."

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through the motions" of working out the road tax but would pocket the road taxes paid by non-resident owners and say nothing.

With such indifference to a public obligation it is no wonder that road making made slow progress. It was the same here as elsewhere. The roads were the first to go to pieces and the last to receive attention.

To Door County's honor, however, it can be said that this county was one of the first to wake up to a desire and active campaign for better things. In 1905 an era of good road building was inaugurated which has done more to put Door County on the map than anything else. Door County is now the foremost county in the state, regardless of population or wealth, in the number of miles of well paved roads. Door County now (in 1917) has 150 miles of macadam roads, many miles of which have been oiled and are as pleasant to travel on as on an asphalt street. This fine system of roads, running continuously from one end of the county to the other has been built without any bond issue and without a dollar of debts. The county is at present building about twenty miles of new macadam annually. In 1916 the Town of Gibraltar constructed five miles of macadam road besides building an expensive concrete bridge. In acknowledgment of this enterprise and public spirit the Wisconsin Highway Commission sent the chairman of the town a letter in which it states that "the Town of Gibraltar has built more miles of macadam this year than has been done by any town in the state in any year."

The following table gives the amount of money raised by each town and also the share paid by the county and the state for each year since the good roads movement began. The grand total shows that a total mileage of 125 miles has been built at a total cost of \$230,080.52, while \$37,736.42 has been spent in repairs and equipment. These totals do not include a considerable mileage of macadam built and paid for exclusively by the towns and known as town roads. Including these there are in Door County, not including the roads built in 1917, about one hundred and fifty miles of macadam roads built at a total expense of about three hundred and twenty thousand dollars.

## CHAPTER XXI

### THE RAILROAD AND TELEGRAPH

On December 30, 1869, the first meeting was held in Sturgeon Bay for the purpose of seeking an outlet by a railroad. A form of a charter was presented and approved. The following were named as incorporators from Door County: A. W. Lawrence, John McKinney, D. A. Reed, Geo. Pinney, John Garland, H. Harris, W. K. Dresser, R. M. Wright, C. L. Harris, G. W. Allen and L. D. Ramsay. A bill to incorporate this company, known as the Sturgeon Bay and Fond du Lac Railway Company, was introduced by Col. C. L. Harris in the assembly, January 19, 1870. Upon the passage of this bill, D. H. Rice and G. W. Allen were appointed commissioners to solicit subscriptions. They started in a buckboard to visit the men of Clay Banks April 19, 1870. As practically the only men in Clay Banks at that time were the timber operators who owned their own piers and vessels and therefore did not need a railway and as it was not intended to have the railway go within ten miles of their places of business the subscription commissioners did not obtain enough to pay for the feed of the horse on the journey. This poor beginning threw such a damper on the project that it was buried and forgotten by common consent.

Two years later Hon. Joseph Harris, Sr., began to work for a telegraph line. He appealed to the business men of Sturgeon Bay and was able to secure \$800 by August 13, 1872. This was sufficient and the telegraph was extended to Sturgeon Bay from Two Rivers.

On May 31, 1881, a Mr. D. M. Kelly, who was the chief promoter of the Wisconsin Peninsula Railway Company, offered to build a railroad from Green Bay to some point in Liberty Grove provided the county would subscribe a bond issue for \$50,000, one-half of which was to be delivered when the cars were running into Sturgeon Bay and the other half to be delivered when the cars were running to Liberty Grove. This was at the height of the timber industry and it was Mr. Kelly's plan to tap the vast interior forests of Door County

which were then beginning to be cut out. The plan was entirely practicable and if this small bond issue had been voted it is probable that a railroad would have been built to the end of the peninsula and Door County's deferred prosperity would have come many years earlier. However, the vessel interests and pier owners were opposed to this and through the Advocate managed to create a general local opposition to a bond issue. It was luridly set forth that this (paltry) bond issue would plunge the county into inextricable debt which the taxpayers would groan under for generations to come. On the other hand it was temptingly told how convenient and cheap was water transportations. The following extracts give an idea of the reception prepared by the Advocate for the railroad project:

"A man from Green Bay told a reporter of the Advocate something of the results of the bond issue in that county.

"He said that the people are utterly discouraged and anxious to get out of the county. A wealthy citizen of Green Bay told us, last summer, that he could rent a house for less money than the taxes on his property. Trade is demoralized. Commercial integrity has been undermined and a recent refugee from the city assures us that it is impossible for an honest man to do business in the city. Farmers tell us that they have hawked their produce around the streets of that city by the day, and in some instances have to take it home again. The railroad would give them only 75 cents a cord for wood—not enough to pay a chopper starvation wages, and so on through the whole dreary chapter.

"And yet our esteemed contemporary would have us believe that railways have been an unmixed benefit to Brown County. If to grow poorer year by year; if to sit in desolation throwing ashes on her head; if to lose her most enterprising citizens as fast as they are able to persuade some verdant outsider to buy their property; if to be crushed to earth by taxation be a benefit, then indeed has Brown County much reason for rejoicing. But Door County is not desirous of purchasing prosperity at such a price."—The Advocate, May 26, 1881.

Here is another tidbit:

"A railway running into Green Bay would interest and benefit our people about as much as though it ran into the middle of Lake Michigan. We might use it occasionally when we wanted to attend a circus or a lawsuit, but as far as regular travel or freight shipments are concerned we would as soon think of going to New York by way of the Sandwich Islands."—The Advocate, June 9, 1881.

As a result, when the county board received the petition of the Wisconsin Peninsula Railway Company that an election be held on the bond issue, the lords of the county board did not even consider it worth while to submit the question to the voters. The petition was denied by a vote of 8 to 11 as follows:

Ayes: Dreutzer, Delmont, Higgins—8.

Noes: Fetzer, Englebert, Graham, Kinney, Delfosse, Larson, Rickaby, Gillispie, Noble, Erskine, Wiltse—11.

Two other railroad companies, the Milwaukee, Lake Shore and Western and the Fond du Lac, Portage and Sturgeon Bay Railway Company, had also made surveys down the peninsula at the same time and were ready to build upon the receipt of the customary aid. Seeing, however, the hostile attitude of the county, they dropped the project.

In 1882 an attempt was made to extend the telegraph line to Baileys Harbor. The people of Sturgeon Bay were apathetic toward the effort and the subscription failed. Horn & Joseph had previously built a private telegraph line from Algoma to Horn's Pier in the northeastern corner of Clay Banks. When the projected telegraph failed this firm voluntarily built a telegraph line along the lake shore from Horn's Pier to Lily Bay, Whitefish Bay, Jacksonport and Baileys Harbor. This telegraph line was in use until 1887.

An attempt was made in 1884 by the Milwaukee, Lake Shore and Western to extend its track from Two Rivers to Sturgeon Bay. A preliminary survey was made but finding that the hostility against railroads continued the project was dropped.

June 4, 1885, articles of incorporation were filed with the secretary of state by a new corporation known as the Wisconsin Railway and Navigation Company. The object of the corporation is given to construct and maintain a railway from a point in Brown County, near where the Fox River empties into Green Bay, in an easterly direction through the Town of Casco in Kewaunee County, thence to Sturgeon Bay—a distance of forty-five miles; also a branch from a point on the main line in Kewaunee County east to the City of Kewaunee, and another branch from a point on the main line into Kewaunee County east to Ahnapee (Algoma) in Kewaunee County, each about fifteen miles in length. The company is also privileged to own and operate water craft.

The capital stock is \$1,500,000, divided into 15,000 shares and the incorporators as well as the directors are given as Wm. O. Wright and M. H. Wilcoxson, of Freeport, Ill.; P. L. Spooner, Jr., and F.



W. Oakley, of Madison, Wis.; E. S. Minor, Sturgeon Bay; Edward Decker, Casco; and M. J. Briggs, of Georgetown, Colo.

During the summer a survey was made by the engineers of this company from Sturgeon Bay southward. The survey did not turn westward to Green Bay, however, as was the original intention, but continued in a southwesterly direction, terminating at Forest Junction in Calumet County.

At the November meeting (1885) of the county board of supervisors a petition was presented asking that a special election be held for the purpose of ascertaining whether the people of Door County were willing to bond the county for the sum of \$38,000 in aid of the railroad projected by the Wisconsin Railway and Navigation Company. The petition was granted and the date of election was set at December 29, 1885.

During the intervening weeks there was great excitement in the county over the proposition. The Advocate opposed the aid asked for by the railroad company with all the energy and talent at its disposal and was assisted by men from Liberty Grove, Baileys Harbor, Union and other towns lying far from the route of the proposed railway. The day before the election the Advocate mailed to its rural readers a circular setting forth that the railroad company expected to carry the City of Sturgeon Bay by a large majority and that it expected the rural population which was opposed to it to remain at home. The circular closed with an urgent admonition to get out the full rural vote. The resultant vote showed that the Advocate's admonition was well heeded. While the City of Sturgeon Bay went almost unanimously in favor of the aid, some of the rural towns were even more unanimously against it. Liberty Grove polled a total vote of 267 votes, of which only ten were in favor of the railway project! Union voted 105 to 1 against the bonds. Following is the vote in detail:

Towns	For	Against
Baileys Harbor .....	25	86
Brussels .....	4	156
Clay Banks .....	48	46
Egg Harbor .....	32	44
Forestville .....	108	5
Gardner .....	3	105
Gibraltar .....	69	72
Jacksonport .....	6	83
Liberty Grove .....	10	257

Towns	For	Against
Nasewaupee .....	14	118
Sevastopol .....	25	60
Sturgeon Bay City .....	288	7
Sturgeon Bay Town .....	70	76
Union .....	1	105
Washington .....	1	71
Total.....	689	1,838

At this time Door County had two newspapers, the Advocate which had been leading the opposition against all railroad projects and the Expositor which had been neutral. Disgusted with this continued opposition to what was believed to be the most necessary factor in the development of the county a group of Sturgeon Bay business men now bought the Expositor and changed its name to the Independent in order largely to get a newspaper favorable to the construction of a railroad. This action soon bore fruit. In 1887 the Wisconsin Midland Railway Company began a campaign for the purpose of securing the necessary aid to build a railroad from Green Bay to Sturgeon Bay. Profiting by the experience of former companies the promoters of this company adopted different tactics. They sent agents around through every town in the county to explain their project to the individual taxpayer and secure his signature to a petition asking for an issue of bonds. This campaign received the hearty support of the Independent while the Advocate chose to remain silent. The campaign was successful and at the November meeting the county board voted to issue county bonds payable in twenty years to the amount of \$35,000 to be paid to the Wisconsin Midland Railway Company upon its completion of a railroad to Sturgeon Bay. The city voted to give an additional bonus of \$5,000. On December 27, 1887, Charles Scofield, mayor of Sturgeon Bay, and George Nelson and M. McDonald, chairman and clerk respectively of the county board, drove to Green Bay and deposited a total of \$40,000 in bonds with the Kellogg National Bank.

Unfortunately the Wisconsin Midland Railway Company was unable to carry out its plans of building a railroad to Sturgeon Bay. At the expiration of the time limit provided for in the bond issue the bonds were returned to the city and county.

On July 29, 1891, another prospective railway company, known as the Ahnapee & Western Railway Company, delivered to the

county clerk a proposition in writing signed by the president, Edward Decker, and by the secretary, C. G. Boalt, of this company. The proposition was that the company would build and operate a railway to Sturgeon Bay, provided the county would issue bonds to the amount of \$60,000 payable in twenty years or on the first day of October of any year before maturity after the year 1896. The proposition provided that the railway company was to receive \$50,000 if the railroad was built and in operation to Bay View (Sawyer) within two years and \$10,000 additional if it was in operation to the City of Sturgeon Bay (north side of the bay) within the same time. The company thereupon circulated petitions throughout the county asking the county board to issue the bonds. The total number of resident taxpayers in the county at that time was 2,871. Of these 2,080 signed the petition. As the statutes provided that a majority signing such a petition was sufficient to authorize the bond issue, the county board adopted the resolution prepared by the railway company and the bond issue was ordered.

In addition to the \$60,000 in aid provided by the county the City of Sturgeon Bay voted \$16,000. The Ahnapee & Western Railway Company now proceeded to build the railway which was completed into the city in 1894 when regular train service was begun July 23d. A grand celebration in honor of the opening of the railway was held August 9, 1894. Three thousand special invitations were sent out and the day was celebrated with speeches, feasting and dancing. The Company received its \$76,000 and the county at last had an outlet in winter as well as in summer. This outlet could have been had just ten years earlier for less than one-third of the aid given (\$25,000) if it had not been for the opposition of the vessel interests.

In 1899 a bill was introduced in the Legislature by Hon. Henry Overbeck, representative from Door County, authorizing Door County to borrow \$60,000 at 3½ per cent from the state trust funds in order to enable the county to redeem the railway bonds which were drawing 6 per cent. This bill was passed. This proposition was considered by the county board in two special sessions the same year and the money was borrowed. Since then one-twentieth (\$3,000) of the principal with interest has been paid annually.

In 1918 the E. E. Galle Co. of Minneapolis, a promoting company, came into Door County and began a vigorous campaign to raise funds for the purpose of building a railway to Newport in Liberty Grove. They asked no support from the county but sold stock to individuals. The route was surveyed, a large tract of land

at Newport was purchased and a mass of excellent advertising matter was issued. While the City of Sturgeon Bay in the opening of the campaign seemed indifferent to the project its citizens later responded in a substantial manner. About seventy-five thousand dollars' worth of stock was sold in the northern part of the county and the enterprise looked decidedly hopeful, when suddenly in the midst of the campaign the European war broke out July 29, 1914. Immediately there was such a stringency in the money market that the promoters were obliged to give up the project with great loss to themselves. The many thousand dollars paid in by the investors were returned to them with the exception of a fee of 3 per cent to which the promoters were entitled by agreement.

## CHAPTER XXII

### HISTORY OF DOOR COUNTY CHURCHES

The religious history of Door County begins in the year 1858. In that year a small congregation of Scandinavian Moravians, organized in Milwaukee four years previously, with its pastor settled at Ephraim. From the first Sunday in May, 1858, until the present time this congregation has almost every Sunday met together in divine worship.

About 1860 the Belgians of Union and Brussels organized into two congregations, St. Mary's and St. Michaels. Two or three years later the Methodists, Moravians and Catholics of Sturgeon Bay organized congregations and obtained local pastors.

During the next ten years very few new organizations were effected. Since 1871, however, the organization of new congregations has continued steadily until there now are fifty-three religious organizations in the county.

The people of Door County are very religious, there being no less than 18,968 church members <sup>1</sup> out of a total population of 18,711. This means that more than 75 per cent of the population are affiliated with some church. These are divided as follows:

Name of Denomination	No. of Con- gregations	Members or Adherents	Value of Church Property
Roman Catholic .....	18	6,177	\$232,500
Lutheran .....	15	4,298	108,500
Moravian .....	4	918	24,000
Methodist .....	3	800	30,500
Baptist .....	3	500	20,450
Congregational .....	1	350	17,000
German Evangelical .....	2	200	5,000
Spiritualist .....	1	300	1,500

<sup>1</sup> Some churches, such as Adventists, Baptists and Methodists count as church members only grown persons who claim conversion. In these statistics the children of such people are also counted as church members.

Name of Denómination	No. of Con- gregations	Members or Adherents	Value of Church Property
Episcopalian .....	4	200	15,000
Seventh Day Adventists ..	2	100	1,500
Quakers .....	1	100	7,500
Seamen's Friends Society..	1	80	1,200
Total.....	50	13,968	\$464,600

Many of the churches of Door County are of very beautiful design and very substantial workmanship. Among these may be mentioned in particular the Catholic Church in Sturgeon Bay, the Lutheran Church at Kolberg and the Catholic churches at Maplewood and Brussels and Egg Harbor.

Following is a brief synopsis of the history of each church arranged according to the age of the congregation. It was first intended to present a sketch of each congregation to be submitted by the pastor of the same but as the material submitted was too voluminous it was necessary to condense it.

#### 1. THE EPHRAIM MORAVIAN CHURCH

1858. Organized in Milwaukee in 1849. Moved to Fort Howard in 1850. Moved to Ephraim led by its pastor, A. M. Iverson, in 1858. First church was built in 1857 and dedicated December 18, 1859. This church is still in use and is the oldest church in the county. Also the oldest church of continuous service in Northern Wisconsin. Reverend Iverson served the congregation with great fidelity for fifteen years. Was succeeded in 1864 by Rev. J. J. Groenfeldt, another of the county's most active pioneer preachers. The present pastor is Rev. Samuel Groenfeldt, a son of the above, who also serves the Sister Bay Moravian Church. The church has a membership of 111. The number of adherents is now about 200. During the summer months the church enjoys a very large patronage by summer tourists. The value of the church property is about ten thousand dollars.

#### 2. THE BAPTIST CHURCH ON WASHINGTON ISLAND

1854. William B. Hamblin, a Baptist minister, came to Washington Island and Rock Island in 1854 and conducted revival serv-

ices. He was an ardent idealist and often taking his texts from the sublime scenery and majestic elements around him, preached rousing sermons. Quite a revival resulted with many baptisms. A church was organized which in the beginning had most of its membership among the people of Rock Island. John Boone was chosen deacon but no permanent pastor was obtained for many years. Later a church was built on Washington Island and a resident pastor was in charge at intervals. The church has a pastor at present but I have been unable to obtain any information from him.

### 3. ST. MARY'S CHURCH IN UNION (CATHOLIC)

1860. This congregation began to receive regular services about 1860 from Father Edward Daems, the first priest in the Belgian settlement and the man who caused the settlement to be located in this part of Wisconsin. The same year Alexander Evrard donated three acres of land to the Diocese for the erection of a church. A small log church was erected the same year. In 1874 a new frame church was built with a parochial school attached. In 1884 a parsonage of brick was built. Up to this time the church had been served by priests from Rosiere and the Bay Settlement. The first resident priest was Rev. L. Stevnart.

On December 12, 1890, the church and school were totally destroyed by fire. A new church was built the next year which is still in use. A large parochial school building was also erected in 1894. This and the church are under the care of three sisters who live in the school building and are paid by the congregation. A new parsonage was built in 1910. The value of all the church property is \$10,000, which is a very conservative estimate. The church has a membership of ninety families or 580 persons.

In 1893, at the suggestion of Rev. Alph Broens, invitation was sent to Holland to send priests of the Premonstratensian or Norbertine Order, commonly called White Fathers to America, to take charge of the parishes in the Belgian settlement. The first band to arrive in America came the same year, consisting of Rev. B. H. Pennings, Rev. Lambert Broens and Brother Servatius. Reverend Pennings was appointed for St. Mary's in Union and his parish included Brussels and Gardner. In 1898 Father Pennings established a branch of the order in West De Pere. A college was built there and this is now the headquarters of the order in America. Reverend

Pennings is the prior of St. Norberts Priory and president of St. Norbert's College.

The present pastor of the congregation is Rev. J. J. Gloudemans, who also serves Gardner and Brussels.

#### 4. ST. MICHAELS CHURCH IN BRUSSELS

1860. This church is located in the southern part of Brussels and is not affiliated with St. Mary's of Union but with St. Hubert's at Rosiere,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles distant. It was organized about 1859 or 1860 and a small church was built. The congregation numbers thirty-five families or about two hundred persons. The present church was built in 1875. Its present value is about six thousand dollars.

#### 5. THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AT BAILEY'S HARBOR

1862. This congregation was organized in 1862 and for ten years was served by Father Bernier of Peshtigo who had many hard journeys across the bay and through the woods to reach his little flock. The congregation was then served by priests from Sturgeon Bay. A church was built in 1874. The first resident priest was Rev. J. O'Laughlin. This congregation is now affiliated with Sister Bay. It has a membership of 450. The church property is worth about two thousand dollars.

#### 6. THE METHODIST CHURCH IN STURGEON BAY

1863. In the winter of 1863 Elder William Stevens of Kewau-nee held a series of religious meetings in Sturgeon Bay in what is now known as the C. M. Whiteside residence. As fruit of this labor a congregation of Methodists was effected and a regular pastor, Rev. B. M. Fullmer, was assigned in the fall of 1863. He also for a time served a small congregation at Fish Creek which has since been dissolved. In 1866 two lots for the site of a church were donated by Henry Schuyler, Sr., and the erection of a church was begun. The church was completed and dedicated September 13, 1868. This church had a tower 100 feet high which was later cut down. It is now used as a feed store.

A new and very substantial church building was erected in 1890 under the vigorous leadership of Rev. G. C. Carmichael. When the church was dedicated on October 22, it still had a debt of \$3,300.



This debt, however, was wiped out on the day of the dedication and a balance left in the treasury. At the time of its erection it was the handsomest church on the peninsula. The congregation numbers 191 members, having about five hundred adherents. It also has a parsonage. The value of the church property is about fifteen thousand dollars. The present pastor is E. J. Symons who also serves a congregation at Jacksonport.

#### 7. THE MORAVIAN CHURCH IN STURGEON BAY

1864. The first members of this church were originally members of the Moravian congregation which settled at Ephraim in 1858 and received occasional visits from its pastor, Rev. A. M. Iverson. A congregation was loosely organized in 1862 but was formally organized January 30, 1864, when articles of incorporation were filed. A church building had been started in 1857 but after raising a few logs the work was discontinued. In 1864 the work on the same building was resumed and the church was completed. This building is now used for the church parlors. A new church was erected in 1880. The present value of the church, including a parsonage, is \$10,000. It has about four hundred adherents. The present pastor is Rev. E. F. Helmich who also serves a congregation in the southern part of the Town of Sturgeon Bay.

#### 8. ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH IN STURGEON BAY

1865. In the year 1865 the first Catholic settlers, though scattered over a large territory, decided to establish a parish at Sturgeon Bay. The first entry we find in the church record reads: "Paid for the place to J. Lavassor, \$66." The "place" was a four acre tract in, what was then, a wilderness, but is now the flourishing little City of Sturgeon Bay. On this spot the first church, a frame building 35 by 45 feet, was erected in the year 1865. The people built this church as best they could, being only occasionally visited by priests from Kewaunee, Ahnapee and Rosiere.

In 1869 Rev. Ferdinand Stern was appointed first resident priest. He was followed by Rev. John Adelaar, January 1, 1872. January 14, 1872, the church which up to this time had been a mission was dedicated.

On the 30th day of April, 1876, Rev. Englebert Blume took



Completed in 1889. Enlarged 1900.  
Discontinued 1909



Built in 1866. Discontinued October 6, 1889



The present church

OLD AND NEW VIEWS OF ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, STURGEON BAY



charge of this parish and worked here until the 30th of September, 1884. This was an unusually long pastorate in these pioneer days.

He was succeeded on the 8th of November by the Rev. G. J. Pellegrin, who remained in charge until September 9, 1887, when the present pastor, Rev. Alph. Broens, took up the work. The old frame church was still doing service at that time.

In the year 1888 the parochial school was established. The brick school building, which at that time was considered quite a pretentious structure, was dedicated on the 2d day of October.

Ground was broken for the brick church, which was to replace the frame church building, on the 2d of August of the same year, and on the 3d of October the cornerstone was solemnly blessed. Work was resumed in the spring of the next year and pushed vigorously so that the church could be dedicated on the 6th of October. This church was 40 by 90 feet in dimension. The steeple was completed in 1891. In the summer of 1900 the sanctuary and sacristies were added, making the total length of the building 110 feet. A new parsonage was started in 1908 and completed in 1904.

On Easter Sunday of that year a new parish was organized, on the west side, but in spite of these additions to the church and the division of the parish, it soon became evident that a larger and safer building was becoming an absolute necessity. This important step was decided upon in December, 1907, and a building fund started for this purpose. In the fall of 1908 part of the foundation walls were built and this work was continued early in the spring of the year 1909 so that the cornerstone could be laid on the 2d of May. During this year the main auditorium was completed and the old church razed, so that all building materials could be utilized in the new building, thereby reducing the cost of the building.

On Sunday, November 28, 1909, the first services were held in the new church. Work on the interior of the sanctuary was continued during the winter months and the following year saw the entire building completed. This church, measuring 65 by 154 was dedicated November 14, 1910. It is one of the most stately and pleasing church buildings in the state.

The church property includes a block of twelve lots, five buildings and furniture and is conservatively estimated to have a present value of \$100,000. The congregation numbers 300 families and there are 225 pupils in its parochial school. The present pastor is Rev. Alph. Broens who has served the church since September 9, 1887, being the dean of Door County pastors. He has written a

brief but very good history of the church from which the above facts are gleaned.

On September 13, 1916, the parish celebrated its golden jubilee, the entire city taking part in the celebration. Former members of the parish gathered from all parts of the country, and the grand jubilee service was graced by the presence of two bishops and fifty-two priests.

#### 9. BETHEL CHURCH ON WASHINGTON ISLAND

1865. Rev. Peter Kitwood came to Washington Island in July, 1864, and was very highly impressed by the hospitality of the people.

Most of the islanders at that time were fishermen. He placed before them the project of building a church. At once a subscription towards that end was started and all responded generously. Reverend Kitwood interested others in the project. Mr. Bert Ranney gave an eighty acre tract of land on which to build the church; Mrs. B. Franklin donated the bell; others gave material to the amount of \$250 and the rest was given by the people of the island. Reverend Kitwood came back to the island in 1865, in which year the church was built. He preached in the church for several years and also visited St. Martins Island and Rock Island.

He was succeeded by a number of pastors who all, including Reverend Kitwood, were paid by the Bethel Seamen's Friends Society. They received \$800 per year, the people of the island giving what they could toward this salary. Since 1876 no pastors have been sent by the society and no congregation has been organized. It has, however, been much used by visiting ministers and Bethel Church has an interesting history. Since 1888 John Malloch has regularly conducted a Sunday school in the church.

#### 10. ST. JOSEPH CHURCH IN GARDNER

1866. The first Catholic Church in the Town of Gardner was the St. John the Baptist Church built in 1866. For the very interesting subsequent history of this church and its rival, the St. Joseph Church, see the account given in the chapter on the Belgian Settlement.

St. John the Baptist Church burned down in 1894 which left only St. Joseph Church; most of the members of St. John the Baptist

Church joined the congregation of St. Francis Xavier in Brussels. St. Joseph Church has been and is a mission of Union.

The church has a membership of eighty-two persons and its church property is worth about five hundred dollars, including the land. It is served by Rev. J. J. Gloudemans of Union, who also serves Brussels.

#### 11. THE GERMAN M. E. CHURCH IN SAWYER

1868. The beginning of the German M. E. congregation dates from about 1868, when Rev. Geo. Linsenmeyer, a Colporteur, held meetings in schoolhouse of District No. 8, Nasewaupee, where the congregation was first organized as a mission charge.

On November 18, 1874, John Sorenson of Sturgeon Bay deeded to the trustees, Fred Kruger, Adam Heilman, Geo. Senft, Fred Aarlt and Chas. Schreiber, the present church site, and the building of the first church was undertaken under the direction of Rev. Geo. Dilling, then pastor.

An adjoining lot was bought in 1902 and a parsonage was built under the direction of Rev. Wm. G. Schmidt, at which time also this became a separate charge.

In April, 1911, the church was destroyed by fire, and a new one, built on the same site during the summer, was dedicated in November, 1911. The value of the church property is \$15,000. The number of members at present is 65; adherents, 100.

#### 12. THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AT MAPLEWOOD

1871. Father Ferdinand Stern of Algoma in 1871 established the Mission of "The Holy Name of Mary" in the Town of Forestville. In 1880 a church was built two miles north of Forestville and the congregation continued to be served by the priest from Algoma until 1901. In this year Rev. Joseph Hammer was appointed first resident pastor and a parsonage of brick was built the same year at Maplewood, two miles north of the old church. With remarkable energy the congregation the same year undertook to build a new church of large dimensions and beautiful design on the hill east of Maplewood, where Joseph Zettel gave four acres of land for a site. This church was completed and dedicated December 17, 1901, and is a most imposing edifice.

Reverend Hammer was succeeded by Rev. Joseph Schroeder in

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November, 1903. Under his pastorate a parochial school was opened. He was followed by Rev. L. Blum in December, 1903. The present pastor, Rev. Francis L. Geier, took charge on September 6, 1910, and has promoted the interests of the church energetically.

The congregation numbers about six hundred. The church property has a value of about thirty thousand dollars.

#### 13. THE TANUM AND FOREST NORWEGIAN LUTHERAN CHURCHES IN CLAY BANKS AND FORESTVILLE

1872. On January 29, 1872, a congregation by the name of the Tanum Evangelical Lutheran Congregation was organized in the house of G. J. Anderson. This was the first Lutheran congregation organized in Door County and is the mother of a number of other congregations which have since been set off from the original organization. The first resident pastor was Th. Schesvold, who came in 1876. A church was built about 1874, which was replaced by a larger structure about 1882. April 18, 1888, it was decided to divide the congregation, the western half taking the name of Forest Evangelical Lutheran. About the same time another part of the congregation withdrew and organized the Bay View Norwegian Lutheran Church.

The Tanum and Forest churches have always been served by the same pastor and have a membership together of 547. Besides the two churches they also own a parsonage and a forty-acre farm used by the pastor. The value of all the church property is about twelve thousand dollars. The present pastor is Rev. O. N. Jordheim.

As these two congregations were originally one and have always been served by the same pastor in churches only 3½ miles apart, they have been treated as one in this record.

#### 14. ST. PETER'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF FORESTVILLE

1874. The history of this congregation reaches back into the days of early pioneer life. After being for some years under the spiritual care of the Rev. C. F. Keller of Rankin, Kewaunee County, a small number of German Lutherans in the year 1874 organized themselves under the name given above. The first resident pastor was the Rev. A. G. Doehler, who entered upon his duties in the fall of 1875. Soon after his arrival the first parsonage was built, a small frame church having been constructed some time previous. After fourteen years of service Reverend Doehler was succeeded by Rev.



NORWEGIAN LUTHERAN CHURCH, SAWYER





Aug. Luebkeemann, whose pastorate also lasted fourteen years. Under his leadership in the year 1891 a new church was erected at a cost of \$4,000.00. In November, 1908, Rev. G. H. Berger, the present pastor, took charge of the congregation. The year following a new parsonage was built at a cost of \$2,700.00, and in 1912 the congregation erected a modern schoolhouse, the cost of site and building being about \$2,400.00. The approximate value of the entire church property at the present time is \$12,000. The numerical strength of the congregation is about 600 souls and 112 voting members. Believing like all true Lutherans in the basic American principle of the complete separation of church and state which excludes religion from the public school, the congregation has from the beginning maintained a parochial school for the Christian education of its children. For thirty-eight years the pastors in a self-sacrificing spirit have devoted a large portion of their time and energy to the work in this school, but since the fall of 1913 salaried teachers are being engaged for it. Besides religion all the branches of a common school are being taught. The congregation is connected with the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio and other states.

#### 15. THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AT JACKSONPORT

1874. This church was organized in 1874 by Rev. J. Rohde of Algoma who celebrated mass a few times each year. After 1876 it was a mission of Sturgeon Bay. Under Rev. E. Blume's pastorate in 1878 a church was built. The value of this church is about four thousand dollars. It has a membership of 240. The priest lives in Baileys Harbor and he also serves the church at Egg Harbor.

#### 16. THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AT SISTER BAY

1874. This church is served jointly with Baileys Harbor. The priest lives at the latter place. It has a membership of 125. The church property is worth \$1,000. The congregation was organized in 1874 and for a long time mass was celebrated in Andrew Roeser's house.

#### 17. THE GERMAN EVANGELICAL CHURCH OF LIBERTY GROVE

1875. In the summer of 1874 two German Evangelical ministers held revival services in the German settlement in Liberty Grove.

The next year a class was organized of eight members (heads of families). A church was built the same year and a resident pastor obtained. In 1877 a parsonage was built. For a time the church enjoyed an excellent growth and in 1879 there were 100 voting members. It later declined in membership, however, having at present only twenty-five voting members or about seventy-five adherents. The value of the church property is about two thousand dollars. This church has had no less than twenty-two regularly appointed pastors. The name of the congregation is Emanuel's Church and it belongs to a German denomination whose official name is The Evangelical Association.

#### 18. THE CHURCH OF ST. FRANCIS DE PAUL AT MARCHAND (UNION)

1875. No definite information has been gained about this congregation. It is composed of Belgian Catholics and has a membership of about two hundred. The church property is estimated to have a value of \$6,500. It is served by a priest of Kewaunee County.

#### 19. THE BETHANY NORWEGIAN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH AT EPHRAIM

1876. Lutheran services were held at Ephraim at various times during the '60s. Mr. Peter Peterson, a former merchant of Ephraim, was the promoter of this and by his help a congregation was organized in 1876. In 1882 a church was built and also a parsonage. For many years afterward the church had resident pastors and a good membership. When the State Park lands were purchased by the state about 1910 about one-half of the congregation was compelled to move away. Since then the church has languished, having at present only about fifty adherents. It is now served by the pastor of the Ellison Bay Church. The value of the church property is about six thousand dollars.

#### 20. THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AT EGG HARBOR

1876. This congregation was organized in 1876 by Rev. E. Blume of Sturgeon Bay. The church was built in 1878 and stood two miles south of Egg Harbor. It was a mission of Sturgeon Bay until 1889 when it became a mission of Jacksonport. With the help of Rev. E. Hugenholtz a new church was built in 1889. In 1911 a



REAR VIEW OF ST. ALOYSIUS'S INSTITUTE



HOLY NAME OF MARY CHURCH, AT MAPLEWOOD



new very beautiful church was built in the Village of Egg Harbor and the old building was torn down. The value of the present church is about ten thousand dollars. The membership is about three hundred. The priest lives at Baileys Harbor and he also serves Jacksonport.

21. THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHRIST CHURCH OF LIBERTY GROVE  
(GERMAN)

1876. This congregation was organized September 15, 1876. The church was erected the same year. Rev. L. F. Huber was its first pastor. This congregation being small, has had many pastors, staying only for a year or two with the exception of Rev. W. Kuesel who served the church from 1885 to 1908, when he died at his post. The present pastor is Rev. C. F. Stubenvoll. The congregation has a voting membership of 35 and about 180 adherents. The church property is valued at about \$4,000.

22. THE SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH AT FISH CREEK

1876. In the winter of 1876 Elder H. W. Decker, a Seventh Day Adventist minister, held revival services in Fish Creek. His labors were successful and on May 1, 1876, thirty-five persons were baptized into the Adventist Church by immersion at the mouth of the creek. Shortly afterward a church was built. The Adventist denomination has but few resident pastors, therefore this church has had only occasional visits by traveling elders. It has a membership, including children of about thirty-five. The value of the church property is about seven hundred dollars.

23. THE SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH AT STURGEON BAY

1876. This church was organized in the spring of 1876 by Elder H. W. Decker. Among the most active first members of this church were Mrs. John Campbell, Mrs. Joseph Campbell, Mrs. John Leathem and Albert Templeton. John Leathem gave the congregation a lot whereon a church was soon built. The present membership is about sixty including children. The congregation has no ordained pastor, but Dr. G. F. Hilton serves as local elder. This little congregation is a very self-sacrificing one, paying a tenth of all their income to the church. Besides that they have also for some time

maintained at their own expense a missionary in Korea. This year (1917) more than a thousand dollars will be raised for missionary work. The value of the church property is about one thousand dollars.

#### 24. SISTER BAY BAPTIST CHURCH

1877. The work that led to the organizing of this congregation began in the year of 1868, when A. Seaquist started a house to house Sunday school. Shortly after he was joined by John Anderson, who also preached. A regular Baptist Church consisting of eight members was organized in July, 1877, by Rev. R. P. Ekman. The congregation was without a pastor until 1881, when Rev. Chas. Was-sell took up the work, which he continued for twenty-five years. Under his efficient leadership and due to his perseverance, the church experienced a steady growth.

The first church building was constructed in 1882. In 1902 the congregation had outgrown this building and an addition was built nearly doubling the seating capacity. In 1905 a parsonage was built at the cost of \$1,800. A new, larger and modern church edifice was built in 1916. The same year a church building was bought at Newport, where regular services were held. The congregation has now a property worth \$12,000.

From the beginning the congregation has partaken liberally in both home and foreign missions, charities and temperance work. The congregation has raised about forty thousand dollars for the work in the local field and elsewhere. Great emphasis has been laid on evangelism and Sunday school work. The school has a present enrollment of over two hundred. The success of this branch of the work is largely due to the efforts of Axel Anderson, who previous to the present year had served effectively as superintendent for thirty years. A grandson of the man who in 1868 began the Sunday school work, John R. Seaquist, was then elected superintendent.

Since the organization of the congregation nearly 400 members have been received. The present membership is 165 (350 adherents). The church has had four different pastors: Chas. Was-sell, 1881-1906; L. J. Olson, 1907-1910; A. E. Carlson, 1910-1914. The present pastor, Erik Anderson, took up the work in 1914. Two men have gone out from the church into active Christian work, Rev. Chas. Palm, for many years one of Illinois' prominent Sunday school workers, and Rev. J. P. Erikson, now engaged in Sunday school

work in the State of Washington. A third man, Prof. David E. Carlson, has prepared for the ministry, but through illness has been hindered from active work. This is one of the healthiest churches in the county and is famous for its large and excellent choir.

#### 25. ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH IN BRUSSELS (CATHOLIC)

1877. This congregation is a mission of St. Mary's Union (viz., the pastor of Union has charge of this church). First church built in 1877 under guidance of Father Paradis who was a resident priest in Gardner. Frame building. Two acres property donated by Alexis Franc. This church was later enlarged. Church services were in charge successively of the priests of Gardner, Union and Rosiere, but for many years since 1885 has been attended to by the Union pastor.

A new church was built in 1909 for \$12,000 under the present pastor, Rev. J. J. Gloudemans of Union. It is a beautiful building in gothic style. The church has a membership of 80 families or 450 persons. The value of all church property is \$13,000.

#### 26. THE M. E. CHURCH AT JACKSONPORT

1877. About 1877 a Methodist congregation was organized at Jacksonport. It has a small church valued at \$500 and a membership of 39 (90 adherents). At one time it had a resident pastor but is at present affiliated with the M. E. Church in Sturgeon Bay.

#### 27. ZION SWEDISH LUTHERAN CHURCH, SISTER BAY, WIS.

1878. Zion congregation was organized July 13, 1878. The pioneer work in the congregation was done under the leadership of Rev. C. O. Olander, who was the first Swedish Lutheran pastor in Sister Bay.

Though the congregation is composed of Swedish people, it has for many years affiliated with the Norwegian Lutheran Church, there being no other Swedish Lutheran congregation on the peninsula. They have contented themselves with services conducted by Norwegian speaking pastors.

The church building was erected in 1879. It was considerably improved four years ago, when the tower and the serving parlor were added.

After the departure of Reverend Olander, the congregation was



served by Rev. J. J. Groenfeldt, late pastor of the Moravian Church. Since then they have been served by Lutheran pastors residing at Ephraim, until the present pastor, who serves them from Ellison Bay. The congregation numbers about fifty persons. The value of the church property is about one thousand five hundred dollars.

28. THE CHURCH OF THE ATONEMENT (EPISCOPALIAN) AT FISH CREEK

1878. Through the energy of Mrs. Sarah Jeffcot and Mrs. L. M. Griswold an Episcopal congregation was organized in Fish Creek in 1878. An unfinished dwelling was bought and remodelled, the result being the picturesque church which still stands in the center of the village. For a time a resident pastor conducted regular services but the congregation is now dissolved. There is now only one member left. Lately the church has again come into use by being patronized in summer time by tourists. Rev. Horatio Gates, an Episcopalian clergyman residing at Ephraim, has since 1913 conducted weekly services in the church during the months of July and August. The church property is worth \$1,000.

29. CHRIST CHURCH (EPISCOPALIAN) IN STURGEON BAY

1878. An Episcopalian congregation was organized in Sturgeon Bay in 1878. After a time it practically ceased to exist but was revived in 1913 by Rev. Horatio Gates of Ephraim, who conducts services occasionally in a hall. The congregation has no church. It numbers about twenty adherents.

30. SHILOH MORAVIAN CHURCH IN TOWN OF STURGEON BAY

1881. This congregation was organized by the Sturgeon Bay pastor, the Rev. Christian Madsen, in the house of John Johnson on the 18th day of October, 1881, with a charter membership of six. The name Shiloh Scandinavian Moravian Church was after a short discussion agreed upon and thus it was later incorporated. Besides Pastor Christian Madsen, 1881-1889; Samuel Groenfeldt, 1889-1910; Wm. H. Vogler, 1910-1914; Edward F. Helmich, 1914-, served the church. The total membership is 118. The congregation owns a neat church building, which is valued at \$3,000.

**31. THE EV. LUTH. SALEMS CONGREGATION OF NASEWAUPEE (GERMAN)**

1881. The organization of this church dates back to 1881 and was brought about by the Rev. Aug. Doehler of Forestville, Wis., but the incorporation was delayed until 1887. The church was not built until 1888. At the present time, 1917, the congregation numbers 42 families, about 200 persons. It is served by the pastor of the Sawyer Lutheran Church, Rev. Fred Schuman. The church property is worth \$4,000.

**32. THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH IN STURGEON BAY**

1882. Hope Congregational Church of Sturgeon Bay was organized as the "Hope Congregation" in Lawrence Hall, April 4, 1881. In August, 1888, the name of Hope Congregational Church was adopted as the society now passed under the care of the Congregational denomination. The nine charter members were: Mrs. Anna Packard, Mrs. Aimee B. Smith, Mrs. Ellen Thorp, Mrs. Anna Allen, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Mary Prescott, Miss Louise Prescott, Dr. J. G. Hendricks, and Rev. G. W. Prescott.

Special mention should be made of the fact that the real beginning of the organization was in 1879, when Mrs. M. A. Schuyler, who was then a resident of Sturgeon Bay, applied in person to the church headquarters in Chicago asking to have a missionary sent here. As a result of this appeal Rev. G. W. Prescott was sent here and the early success of the church is largely attributable to his efforts and unselfish service, he having worked in the bank so that his salary as pastor might go to the building of a new church. The lot on which the church was built was given by the Sturgeon Bay Lumber Company, of which A. W. Lawrence and C. M. Charnley were members. The building was completed in 1888 and the Rev. Mr. Prescott preached his first sermon in the new church the first Sunday in December.

The cost of the original church was about \$9,000. Improvements have been made making the total cost of the building about \$12,000. A very good manse was built during the pastorate of Rev. Lucien C. Osgood at a cost of \$3,000 and a fine church organ purchased. The church has 350 adherents. The value of all the church property is estimated at \$17,000.

The pastors have been: Rev. G. W. Prescott, 1880-1891; Mr. Geo. P. Anderson, 1891-1891; Rev. A. A. Andridge, 1892-1894;

Rev. H. G. Margerts, 1895-1895; Rev. L. E. Osgood, 1897-1903; Rev. W. C. A. Wallar, 1906-1911; Rev. N. P. Olmstead, 1911-1916; Rev. J. S. Morris, 1916-.

The church has had a steady healthy growth and late in October, 1916, Rev. Joseph S. Morris after 51½ years of successful work in the Grace Church of Two Rivers, accepted the call of the Hope Congregational Church and the work continues to grow and broaden.

### 33. THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH AT JACKSONPORT

1882. The Church of the Holy Nativity, Jacksonport, was started in August, 1882, by the Rev. W. R. Gardner, who was the general missionary of the Diocese of Fond du Lac. The congregation consisted of people who came from Canada. The church was built in 1886, the first service being held July 25th of that year. The Rev. O. S. Prescott preached the sermon.

The Rev. W. R. Gardner had charge of the mission up to October, 1886. The Rev. E. R. Sweetland succeeded him, and remained until 1889. In August, 1889, the Rev. Joseph Jameson became the vicar of the mission and has been in charge since. The church and farm are worth about six thousand dollars. There are about forty communicants and about eighty adherents.

### 34. THE BAY VIEW LUTHERAN CHURCH (NORWEGIAN)

1883. The Bay View Lutheran congregation was organized October 30, 1883. Rev. C. F. Magelsen, of Manitowoc, made regular visits to the settlement at Clay Banks and visited the Norwegian Lutherans in the towns of Sturgeon Bay and Nasewaupee. Rev. L. M. Bjorn, his predecessor, had begun the work, but no organization was attempted in Sawyer until October 30, 1883. Nine families were then enrolled.

The following pastors have served the church: Rev. C. F. Magelsen, from 1883-1886; Rev. H. A. Gjevne, 1887-1893; Rev. C. J. Reinertson, 1894-1900; Rev. Edward Hegland, 1900-1902; Rev. T. T. Ove, 1902-1906; Rev. L. L. Masted, 1907-October, 1910; Rev. E. T. Rogne from the beginning of 1911 to the present time.

In the year 1903 a number of families with the consent of the mother church organized a separate congregation, five miles northwest of Sawyer in what is now called the Hainesville district of the Town of Nasewaupee. The sixteen families located four to six miles



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, STURGEON BAY



south of Sawyer, still form a part of the Bay View Church, but have erected their own house of worship, which is known as the Mount Olive Church. In 1917 the Bay View Congregation numbers some 53 families, 350 persons. The first church was built in 1885 at a cost of \$1,200. That church was found too small, and a modern structure was built in 1903 at a cost of \$7,379.94.

The Mount Olive Church belonging to the same congregation was built in 1903 at a cost of \$1,530. The present pastor, Rev. E. T. Rogne, has served the church since the beginning of 1911. A parsonage, located on the Little Sturgeon Road, was built in 1900 at an approximate cost of one thousand six hundred and fifty dollars. The Bay View Church has three active ladies aids societies which have done much to defray the heavy expenses.

### 35. THE QUAKER CHURCH IN SAWYER

1883. In 1883 Miss Mary Adell, a Quaker evangelist came to Sawyer and held a series of meetings. Some of the residents there, notably Ole Johnson and Nels Torstenson, were Quakers from Stavanger, Norway, and were very anxious to assist in this work. As a result of her labors eight or ten families accepted the Quaker faith and organized themselves into a congregation. The first church was built in 1885 and Josiah Hoskett, a local carpenter, was their religious leader. He later became a recognized minister of the gospel. In 1902 an imposing church of dressed stone was built. This was accomplished largely through the generosity of Messrs. Termanson and Jenson, the owners of the Sturgeon Bay Stone Quarry, who gave the necessary stone to the church. The church has had a number of pastors staying but a brief time. Among them can be mentioned Rev. Q. B. Stanfield through whose energy the new church was built. The present value of the church property is \$7,500. It has about seventy-five adherents.

### 36. SS. PETER AND PAUL'S CHURCH

1884. SS. Peter and Paul's Church is situated in the Town of Sevastopol, on the Baileys Harbor Road, seven miles north of Sturgeon Bay.

The parish was organized by Rev. E. Blume, pastor of St. Joseph's Church, Sturgeon Bay, in the year 1884. In the same year the Rev. E. Blume was transferred to another charge, and the Rev.

G. Pelligrin was appointed his successor. The congregation was incorporated under the state laws of Wisconsin with Mr. Jos. Nuesse as secretary and Mr. John Meyer as treasurer. In the fall of 1885 the church was completed and blessed.

In September, 1887, the Rev. A. Broens was appointed pastor of Sturgeon Bay. He continued to visit Sevastopol as mission until the spring of 1889 when the Rev. B. Hugenroth was appointed pastor of the missions of the peninsula with residence at Jacksonport. In 1889 the rectory was erected at Sevastopol and Father Hugenroth changed his residence to Sevastopol, attending Baileys Harbor, Jacksonport, Egg Harbor, and Sister Bay as missions.

Since the time of Rev. B. Hugenroth the following priests served as pastor of SS. Peter and Paul's Church: Rev. Fathers F. X. Steinbrecher; J. Hennes; F. Kroll; G. Brunner; C. Ulrich; L. Van de Castle; J. Diss, O. M. I.; M. Jaekels.

Under the pastorship of Rev. L. Van de Castle the church was enlarged and improved. The value of the church property is about seventeen thousand dollars.

The congregation when organized counted some 60 families. At present its membership numbers 110 (about 600 adherents). The parochial school is in connection with St. Aloysius Institute as described in the following article.

#### ST. ALOYSIUS INSTITUTE

The beautiful school alongside of SS. Peter and Paul's Church is known as St. Aloysius Institute. It was built under the direction of Rev. B. Hugenroth in 1892. The object of the institution was to have a parish school and at the same time to take in children as boarders, who lived in the distant missions, in order to give them a Christian education.

The institution is at present in charge of four Sisters of St. Francis of the Convent of Bay Settlement. The pastor of the parish is chaplain of the institution. The institute has accommodations for fifty boarders and fifty day-scholars.

The school is furnished with the best modern equipment. It has individual chair desks; steam heating system; electric light, etc. The institution has two organs and two pianos, to which the music scholars have free access. In the past year 16 per cent of the total number of school children studied music.

The school follows the regular state course of studies, and its

pupils take the county superintendent's examination. The value of the institute school property is about twenty thousand dollars.

### 37. THE SPIRITUALIST CHURCH IN GARDNER

1885. Some time in 1880 a spiritualistic medium from Green Bay by the name of J. B. Everts, began to hold meetings and seances in the house of his brother-in-law, Mr. J. G. Dalemont. A number of proselytes were won to the faith, particularly in the year 1885 when a dramatic situation prompted about forty families to leave the Catholic Church and join faith with the Spiritualists. The events leading up to this wholesale defection are told in the chapter on the Belgian Settlement. A church was built in 1888. One of the converts, Mr. Alexander Dewarzegar, discovered within himself supernatural healing powers and became recognized as a medium of intercourse with the spirit world. He was therefore chosen to occupy the position of pastor. The congregation is also frequently visited by traveling mediums of great repute able in various ways to pierce the veil of the great unknown. The church property is worth about \$1,500. There are about 300 local adherents.

### 38. TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELLISON BAY, WIS.

1885. The history of Trinity Lutheran Church dates back to Sunday, February 1, 1885. The congregation was organized that day. Both Swedish and Norwegian people were interested in this work and took active part. Today the two nationalities are about equally divided. Some years ago a number of German families were also joined to the congregation. These now represent nearly one-third of the present membership.

The location of the church building was determined when John Ellison donated a tract of land to the congregation on which to build their church. Preparations for building were well under way the first year. In the summer of 1886 the work was completed for a place of worship.

The congregation has enjoyed a steady growth from year to year. At the present time the membership is composed of fifty-five families, numbering about three hundred persons.

Eight pastors have served in the congregation. These are the Reverends Olson, Juhlin, Lawrence, Kennell, Kluxdahl, Juvland, Fjeldsgaard, and Mason.



The congregation also owns a parsonage. The total value of the church property at Ellison Bay is about six thousand dollars.

#### 39. ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH, JUDDVILLE, WIS.

1886. The earliest date in the history of St. Paul Lutheran Church is January 26, 1886. On that day the families living in the Juddville district assembled in the Juddville schoolhouse for the purpose of organizing a Lutheran congregation. The congregation was given the name of the great apostle, St. Paul.

The first officers of the congregation were elected as follows: Secretary, Henry Olson; trustees: Otto Anderson, Ole Haltug, and Henry Olson.

From its beginning up to the year 1900, the congregation continued to use the schoolhouse as a gathering place, having as yet no church edifice. The present church building was erected in the year 1900. The ground on which it stands, was donated to the congregation by Otto Anderson. On May 11th the same year, the cornerstone was laid. This service was conducted by Rev. J. C. Reinertson.

The Ladies Aid of the congregation deserves mention for their substantial support in the days the church was built. A good proportion of the funds expended were contributed by them.

Nine pastors have served St. Paul congregation. Their names are given in the order in which they have served: Olson, Wiebel, Juhlin, Kennell, Kluxdahl, Lawrence, Juvland, Fjeldsgaard, and Mason.

The church at the present time is bilingual, with alternating Norwegian and English services. The membership is made up of Norwegian, Swedish and German people and numbers about seventy-five persons. The value of the church property is \$2,000.

#### 40. THE EV. LUTH. ST. JOHN'S CHURCH OF SEVASTOPOL (GERMAN)

1886. Lutheran missionaries visited this section at an early date, but no congregation was organized until 1886, when the Rev. Christian Doehler of Algoma, Wis., united the Lutherans and built a small log church. In 1888 A. Vogt, the first resident pastor arrived, but remained only one year, after which this field was served by the pastor of the Sawyer Church. In 1892 the congregation joined the Parish of Jacksonport and Baileys Harbor, but made arrange-

ments to be served again by the pastor of the Sawyer Church in 1901. A new and modern church building was erected in 1904 on an imposing hill and is visible for miles around. At the present time, 1917, the congregation numbers 66 families, 350 persons. The value of the church property is \$4,000.

#### 41. THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN GARDNER

1888. In 1888 the Church of the Precious Blood was organized by the Reverend Villatte. He was a French clergyman who for some years previously conducted an energetic proselyting campaign among the Belgian Catholics of Gardner. By financial assistance from sympathizers in the East a large church was built, also a guild hall and a manse. It was also Mr. Villatte's plan to build a college on the grounds but this plan was not realized, as Mr. Villatte was shortly afterward excommunicated for usurping a bishop's title. Since then the church has languished but still has a resident vicar, the Rev. Louis Lops. The value of the church property is \$10,000. It has thirty communicant members.

#### 42. THE LUTHERAN CHURCH IN JACKSONPORT (GERMAN)

1888. The Germans of Jacksonport are largely from Thuringen, Saxony, the birthplace of Luther, and therefore took very kindly to the preaching of the Lutheran faith. This was first done by a theological student by the name of Artachek. He effected an organization in 1888 which took the name of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church. For some years the congregation was served by Rev. J. Kaiser of Bay View. Through his energy a substantial church was built in 1889 in West Jacksonport. In 1892 Rev. Emanuel Brackebusch arrived and became the first resident pastor. He served the congregation very faithfully for ten years, preaching in Baileys Harbor, Egg Harbor, Jacksonport, Whitefish Bay and Sevastopol. He was succeeded in 1902 by Rev. John Dowidat. In this year a building was bought in Jacksonport for a parsonage. Following him came Rev. F. Wendt in 1905, Rev. Ed Bardtke in 1910 and Rev. E. F. Sterz, the present pastor, in 1917. The congregation numbers 85 families (500 adherents). The church property is valued at \$5,500. The pastors of this church also serve the Lutheran congregation at Baileys Harbor. They also conduct a school for the religious instruction of the children in both charges.

43. THE EV. LUTHERAN ST. PETER'S CONGREGATION, SAWYER, WIS.  
(GERMAN)

1891. This congregation was organized in 1891 by Dr. J. Kaiser, after a number of the neighboring Lutheran pastors had ministered to the spiritual wants of the scattered Lutheran settlers. Services were held in private houses, until the growing numbers made it necessary to provide for a larger meeting-place. The Norwegian Lutherans offered their German brethren the use of their church until the Germans were in condition to provide for a church of their own. The congregation was incorporated with eight families, the first board of trustees being Louis Branning, Sr., Herman Klitzke, and Jacob Wiesner, Sr. The church was built and dedicated in the fall of the year 1891. The growth of the congregation was slow but steady, numbering at the present time, 1917, 108 families (500 persons). It is affiliated with the Ev. Luth. Synod of Wisconsin and other states. The parsonage was erected in 1896.

The following pastors have served this congregation: J. Kaiser, 1891-1892; M. Kionka, 1893-1898; E. Schulze, 1899-1904; Fred Schumann since 1904. The twenty-fifth anniversary in 1916 brought the largest crowd of people to Sawyer ever seen here.

In order to provide more room for the growing congregation an addition to the building and a basement with central heat have been decided on and will be carried out this year, 1917. The church property is valued at \$10,000.

44. THE GERMAN LUTHERAN CHURCH AT BAILEYS HARBOR

1892. The Emanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church was organized in 1892 with Rev. Emanuel Brackebusch of Jacksonport as first pastor. This congregation has been served by the Lutheran pastors of Jacksonport since then. A church was built in 1894. The congregation numbers about two hundred adherents. The present pastor, Rev. E. F. Sterz, has also opened an English Lutheran field in and around Baileys Harbor.

45. THE MORAVIAN CHURCH AT SISTER BAY

1896. The Sister Bay Moravian Church was organized on Good Friday, April 3, 1896, with John Greenfield as pastor. A log church hitherto owned by a congregation of Free Baptists, being offered

for sale, a number of members and friends united to purchase the building. Twenty-three members of the Ephraim congregation living in closer vicinity to Sister Bay were transferred to this newly organized congregation. In 1915 during the pastorate of Rev. Samuel Groenfeldt the Moravian Church in Liberty Grove which had not been in use for several years was added to the little log church, forming the main audience room with the log addition as a wing part, and a small kitchen. This improvement, which represented an outlay of about one thousand dollars, including a gift of \$475 received from the church extension board, was provided for practically within a year. The church is affiliated with the Ephraim charge, and the outlook for growth is encouraging. The property is valued at least at three thousand dollars. This charge has been served by the Ephraim Moravian pastors since its organization. The congregation reported a membership of 62 in 1916 (about 150 adherents).

#### 46. THE NORWEGIAN LUTHERAN CHURCH IN HAINESVILLE

1903. In 1903 it was decided to create a separate congregation out of that part of the Bay View Lutheran Church (Norwegian) which lived in Hainesville. This new congregation took the name of the Hainesville Evangelical Lutheran Church and in 1904 built a neat little brick church at a cost of \$4,000. Fifteen families, all living within a radius of a mile from the church, are members of the congregation. The church has been served by the Revs. T. T. Ove, Edward Hegland, L. L. Masted and E. T. Rogne—all pastors of the Bay View Lutheran Church with which it continues to be affiliated. The church has ninety-one adherents.

#### 47. THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN SAWYER

1904. This congregation, originally a part of St. Joseph's in Sturgeon Bay, was organized as a separate corporation in March, 1904. A church and parsonage were built in 1905. This church draws its membership from Sawyer, Clay Banks and Nasewaupée and has a membership of 112 families or about 650 adherents. Its incorporated name is the Church of Corpus Christi. Its pastors were: Rev. Fr. Peters, 1904-1907; Rev. C. Hugo, 1907-1908; and Rev. H. Pfeifer, 1908 to the present time. A parochial school is conducted in the basement of the church five days in the week. It has an attendance of sixty-five pupils and is under the instruction

of two teachers who live in a sisters' home belonging to the congregation. The church property has a value of \$18,000.

#### 48. THE GERMAN EVANGELICAL CHURCH IN GIBRALTAR

1905. In 1905 several families in Gibraltar previously belonging to the German Evangelical Church in Liberty Grove (see number 17) organized themselves into a separate congregation which took the name of Zion Evangelical Church. A church was erected the same year at a cost of \$1,200. The church has a voting membership of twenty-six and about fifty adherents. It has been served by the pastors of the parent church.

#### 49. THE GERMAN LUTHERAN CHURCH AT KOLBERG

1908. This congregation was originally a part of the Lutheran Parish of Forestville. The congregation had a separate church building known as the "little brown church" west of Forestville. Just a mile away in the Village of Forestville was later built the present church of St. Peters congregation. It was therefore decided to build a new church near Kolberg, about six miles northwest of Forestville and by so doing a new congregation was practically created. This was done in 1908 and a very beautiful church was erected under the guidance of the first pastor, Rev. F. Eppling of Algoma. He was succeeded in 1913 by the present pastor, Rev. Edmund Hinnental. The value of the church is about \$15,000. There is also a parsonage worth about \$5,000. There are about 300 adherents.

#### 50. THE BAPTIST CHURCH IN FISH CREEK

1915. The Baptist Church of Fish Creek is principally the result of the Sunday school work devotedly carried on by Mrs. C. A. Lundberg for more than twenty years. Through her initiative a small band of Baptists—all women—was gathered together and organized into church fellowship in February, 1915. Although the little congregation numbers only eleven members, they resolutely went to work to build a church. In this work, also, Mrs. Lundberg was the tireless leader. The church was built in the summer of 1917 and was dedicated Sunday, September 2, 1917. This very attractive church was built at a cost of \$3,450, of which all but \$200 was paid before dedication. The church has not yet had a pastor and the entire work

so far accomplished has been managed by the few women who conceived the idea of having a church and set about to obtain it.

In Egg Harbor a Union Church has been built (in 1917) and almost completed, due chiefly to the energetic labors of Mrs. H. F. Eames. No congregation has been organized but a Sunday school is maintained.

Besides the churches and congregations above described there have been several other congregations that have died out. One is the German Baptist Church near Kolberg. Its church building is still standing. Another is the Methodist Church on Washington Island which until recently had a resident pastor. The Free Baptists near Sister Bay and the German Moravians of Liberty Grove have both disbanded and their buildings have been used in the construction of the Scandinavian Moravian Church near Sister Bay. The German Moravian congregation of Jacksonport has like its affiliated sister congregation in Liberty Grove also ceased to exist. There is also a German Evangelical Church (also called the German Methodist) in Jacksonport which is practically extinct. It has a church which was built in 1886 and is at intervals used by the pastor from Liberty Grove.

## CHAPTER XXIII

### NEWSPAPERS AND LITERARY PRODUCTIONS

The first newspaper in Door County was the Door County Advocate, established March 22, 1862. The publishers were Joseph Harris and Myron H. McCord. At that time Door County had a population of less than three thousand people nearly all of whom were engaged in lumbering or fishing; farming with its resultant stable population was only in its earliest infancy. Sturgeon Bay at that time had only thirty houses. For several years it was a small, five column sheet, about one-half the size of the present county papers, and was a losing proposition to the amount of several hundred dollars per year. Mr. McCord probably foresaw the hard sledding in store for the little newspaper and discreetly withdrew from the partnership a month after the first issue.<sup>1</sup> The advertisers on whose support the Advocate depended for its existence were few. In the first issue A. & R. Laurie & Co. (consisting of Alexander and Robert Laurie and Soren Peterson) are the principal advertisers. Other advertisers were David Houle, who promised "warm meals at all hours" at the Cedar Street House and N. R. Lee of the Lee House who did not promise anything; Lyman Bradley, dealer in lumber; C. G. Boalt and T. E. Schjoth, general merchants; W. H. Warren, county surveyor; D. A. Reed, attorney at law; John Long, shoemaker; Peter Peterson, Ephraim, general merchandise; and Moses Kilgore, Baileys Harbor, the same.

There was also in the first issue the following very readable poem of welcome, written by Miss Lottie Harris (later Mrs. D. C. McIntosh):

"We welcome thee to our beautiful bay  
Now sad in its armor of spotless white,  
Where the snowfringed pines so gracefully gay  
In forms fantastic greet the wondering sight.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. M. H. McCord later became a banker in the City of Merrill, Wis., and a member of Congress.

We warmly wish thee a happy success  
 And hail thee with pleasure, a welcome friend,  
 May the fruitful thoughts thy pages express  
 Through forest and hamlet wisdom extend."

Before Mr. Harris ventured to publish his paper he made a thorough canvass of the county and succeeded in finding 104 persons who would subscribe. The following list of names, representative of the whole county, is a copy of the Advocate's first subscription list:

Kilbourn Wead	C. Feldmann	John Chater
Jacob Cross	Chauncey Haskell	J. B. N. Lallemond
Chris Daniels	H. C. Knudson	D. S. Griffin
Jacob Hanson	Robt. Laurie	Fred Arlt
A. Knudson	D. C. McIntosh	John Thoreson
John Long	Soren Peterson	James H. Lockhart
Wm. B. Lawrence	Fred I. Schuyler	M. H. Walker
James McIntosh	Nicholas Simon	Capt. J. J. Lobdill
L. R. McLachlan	Alex Templeton	Wm. C. Betts
Henry Schuyler	Eli A. Thompson	Robert Severs
Andrew Goettelman	Chas. A. Cocagne	Jule Warren
A. G. Warren	Adam Heilmann	Henry Martin
Joseph Zettel	Philip Jacobs	Geo. Bassford
Henry Bernard	Nels Olson	N. Langlois
Tallak Haines	Philip Riley	Frank Pierre
John Mann	George Senft	Hon. C. Larkin
Hans J. Oleson	John Sorenson	George Dahl
Louis Schumacher	Chris Stephan	L. H. Granger
J. P. Simon	Wm. Helmholtz	Geo. B. Waller
P. A. Shaefer	Aslag Anderson	John Peters
Mrs. P. Uhl	H. P. Jacobs	John R. Delmont
Chris. Hempel	C. G. Boalt	Wm. Marshall
Peter Peterson	John Fetzer	A. J. Schuyler
J. R. McDonald	Richard Perry	Hugh Collins
John Stoneman	L. D. Thorpe	Moses Kilgore
James Keogh, Sr.	Wm. Leroy	Wm. Jackson
M. E. Lyman	F. G. Blakefield	Isaac Chapman
V. R. Marshall	C. P. Fairchild	Adam Hendrick
W. G. Manna	Mrs. Robt. Stevenson	John Ellison
R. C. Christianson	Wm. Claffin	I. S. Clark
E. C. Daniels	M. M. Carrington	V. S. Garret



Wm. Baptist	A. Hanrahan	H. Lighthouse
A. Kalmbach	N. J. Delfosse	Thos. J. Howe
D. McDonald	E. Dewarzegar	E. Artman
James R. Mann	Wm. Brown	
Richard Ash	Geo. Moffat	

The following interesting reminiscence written by Mr. McCord in 1888 and published in the Advocate will be read with interest:

"In the fall of 1861, at Green Bay, the writer met Joseph Harris, Sr., by appointment for the purpose of talking over the advisability of establishing a newspaper at Sturgeon Bay. Mr. Harris was very enthusiastic over the project and did not appear to think there was any question of a financial character about the matter. He was so completely wrapped up in the idea of settling up Door County and thought a newspaper the one thing needful to accomplish that result.

"When it was suggested that a newspaper could not be published without quite an outlay of money and that the population of the county was small; that the actual outlay for help and blank paper, rent and fuel could not be figured at less than \$1,000 a year he was completely perplexed and did not know what to say. He was at that time serving the people in the capacity of county treasurer, receiving, I believe, a salary of \$400 a year, and this he required for his own living, and as a matter of course, was compelled to live in a very frugal manner to make both ends meet.

"But I knew of a printing office that could be bought cheap and mostly on time; so we decided then and there to form a partnership and establish a newspaper at Sturgeon Bay. I don't think I should have consented to undertake the venture had it not been for the earnestness with which Mr. Harris pleaded. He went home to Sturgeon Bay to arrange for a building for an office and I to Shawano to purchase the outfit.

"On the 22d day of February, 1862, I think it was, I started with a two horse sleigh and the entire print shop. At that time there was but a very indifferent road from Shawano to Green Bay, and just as we were leaving the latter city there came on a terrible snow storm, which so impeded our movements that three or four days were consumed in making the last half of the trip. However, we arrived at our destination at last; and although we were not received by a very large number of people, yet we were warmly greeted and thought at the time that a warmer hearted, more generous people never lived. Everybody seemed friendly to the new enterprise and also to each

other. There appeared to be no enmities existing or bad friends among them.

"Not being a practical printer myself I engaged at Green Bay, on the recommendation of the late lamented Charles D. Robinson, David F. Follett, now deceased, who was as faithful as the day is long, and a very good printer; yet he had a very perplexing habit of taking a 'lay off' when his services were most needed. One of these 'spells' came on about the time the first number of the paper should have been issued, and it was by one delay and another that the publication was postponed until March 22, 1862, twenty-six eventful years since.

"I soon discovered that the paper could not support two proprietors, and I sold out my interest to Mr. Harris, taking his notes of hand on his own time, being promptly paid at maturity. And while I made no money out of the enterprise I have always been glad I went into it, for it resulted in two things at least, the contemplation of which has given me much pleasure. One is that it laid the foundation for making one of the best local papers in Wisconsin, which has contributed much to make known its resources, develop and build up Door County with its splendid republican majorities; the other that it resulted in making Joseph Harris a state senator, in which capacity he did much to make the wants and interests of his locality known and secure the necessary legislation to build them up, the most notable of which may be mentioned the ship canal, an improvement which has done more for your city and county than anything ever projected.

"I said it resulted in making Mr. Harris a state senator. I will tell you briefly how it happened: Outagamie, Kewaunee, Oconto, Door and Shawano counties then comprised the Twenty-second Senatorial District as well as two assembly districts. The convention to nominate a senator was called to meet at Oconto and each assembly district was entitled to six delegates. When the first formal ballot was taken it was found that the delegates were evenly divided, six being for Joseph Harris and the remainder for Geo. H. Myers, of Appleton, now a circuit judge—and a very clear headed, honest and upright judge he is too. We were in a deadlock and remained so, balloting one or two hundred times a day for three days. We were determined to tire the Myers' men out if we could.

"On the third day one of the delegates from Outagamie and myself paired and went out for a walk. While strolling along the bank of the river he asked me how long the Harris men would hold out. I said I did not know for certain but that I had engaged board until

after election, and should certainly stay that long unless Mr. Harris was sooner nominated. He then proposed to 'flip' a copper with me to see whether I should vote for Mr. Myers or he for Mr. Harris. I consented with one reservation which I will not name, but which was not unfavorable to Mr. Harris' final nomination. He threw up the copper. I took 'heads' and 'heads' came. We walked back to the courthouse, where he arose and stated publicly the agreement with me and the next ballot he voted for Mr. Harris and of course Mr. Harris was nominated.

"After Mr. Harris was nominated a committee was appointed to wait upon him, inform him of his nomination and request his presence before the convention. The committee consisted of Gen. Geo. C. Ginty, then of Oconto, and now of Chippewa Falls; Geo. M. Robinson, of Appleton; and the writer, and I am sorry to say the duty was performed in a most mischievous manner. Mr. Harris was found at his room in the hotel somewhat nervous. This was not strange, as he had been tempest tossed for nearly three days and nights—his nerves wrought up to their utmost tension, in fact on the ragged edge as it were. Ginty informed him with a countenance most sober and in a decidedly sorrowful manner that his friends had made the best fight they could for him, but for the good of the party and the sake of harmony had consented to allow Mr. Myers to be nominated; that the convention having heard that Mr. Harris and some of his friends had said they would bolt the nomination they would like to have him appear and deny the report, and the committee, or rather the chairman, urged him to do so. In reply Mr. Harris said, 'Why, certainly I will; the convention has had a long siege and a tedious session; but so far as I know its proceedings have been characterized by fairness and honesty and why shouldn't we give the nominee a hearty and cordial support?'

"We went to the courthouse and Mr. Harris was introduced to the convention ignorant of his nomination. He commenced by thanking his friends for the heroic manner in which they had stood by him, then proceeded to make a nice little republican speech, and was about to conclude by asking his friends to work as hard for the nominee as they would have done for him had he been the candidate. At this the chairman saw there had been a joke played on Mr. Harris and that gentleman proceeded to tell him that he himself had been nominated on the four hundred and seventy-fifth ballot, receiving seven votes to five for Mr. Myers, and that on motion of Mr. Robinson, a Myers delegate, the nomination had been made unanimous.

Of course, Mr. Harris felt greatly chagrined and mortified to think his friends had played such a trick on him; but the heartiness of the support which he had so generously tendered to his supposed successful antagonist under such circumstances made him many friends among both the delegates and the people and brought him many votes in the election.

"The election of Mr. Harris followed, his opponent being T. R. Hudd, now congressman of the 5th district, and he made an excellent senator. That was in the fall of '63. I visited Door County during that election, but have never been there since, though I have, until I sold the Lincoln County Advocate in 1883, been a careful reader of your journal, and through its columns have watched the progress of the county with a great deal of pleasure. I have seen through that reflector, the Advocate, the little village of Sturgeon Bay grow from a population of perhaps one hundred and fifty people in 1862 to nearly eighteen hundred in 1883, and Door County from a population of certainly not over five hundred to upward of fifteen thousand. I have watched the young boys and young girls who were then taking their first lessons in the rudiments of education grow to manhood and womanhood, assume the duties of their respective stations with credit to themselves, their parents and the public institutions of learning of Door County. All this I have watched with genuine pleasure; but on the contrary my heart has often been saddened by the demise of some old settler who has been called to that far away land 'from whose bourne no traveler returneth.' Notably was this so recently when I read of the death of big-hearted, generous John Garland, who at the time I was there was register of deeds.

"I cannot close this already too long letter without congratulating the people of Door County upon the success achieved by my whilom young friend and former 'inp,' Frank Long, who commenced at the bottom round of the Advocate ladder and is now at the helm, and deserves, and I hope receives, the patronage which to publish a splendid weekly newspaper merits.

"Yours very truly,

"M. H. McCORD."

From Door County Advocate, April 14, 1888.

In 1866 Mr. Harris purchased an interest in the paper and the publishers were known as J. & H. Harris. As Mr. Joseph Harris from this time on spent most of his time in Washington in forward-

ing the interests of the Sturgeon Bay Canal and as secretary to Senator Sawyer the management of the paper was principally left to Henry Harris until 1875, when it was bought by Frank Long.

In 1883 Mr. Long, who had been associated with the Advocate from its first issue, wrote the following interesting reminiscence entitled "A Glance Back over a Long Road," published in the Advocate of May 3, 1883.<sup>1</sup>

"Twenty-one years ago an excited group of people was assembled around a printing press in a room over Graham's store, which is at present a weather stained and unoccupied building near the foot of Main Street. On the bed of the press was a type form which a small boy was inking with a small roller, and as the lad was taking his first lesson in the typographic art he had followed the example of all young disciples of Faust by carelessly smearing his face and hands with the mixture of lampblack and linseed oil until he looked as though he had slept in a tar barrel. The form being rolled to the foreman's satisfaction, he laid a sheet of dampened paper on the 'tympan,' detached the 'frisket' from a hook in the ceiling, ran the bed under the platen, pulled the impression lever, and a moment later spread out upon a table for the inspection of the group the first number of the Door County Advocate.

"Although the sheet was a folio, with only five short columns on each page, it was regarded with as much pride and satisfaction as if it had been as large as the Sunday edition of the Chicago Times. The type on which it was printed was long-primer, and for the information of the non-professional reader we explain that 'long-primer' is three sizes larger than the letter in which this article is composed, and is seldom used by journalists nowadays unless they desire to spread a very little reading matter over a great deal of surface, as is the case with some of our esteemed contemporaries who are publishing ten-column newspapers in six-column towns. All other printers have very properly relegated long-primer to the jobbing department, using it chiefly for auction bills, circus posters, gutter snipes and similar long-range literature.

"Twenty-one years is not a very long period in human life, but in that of a newspaper it is often an advanced stage of existence, if we measure length of days by the changes the journal has witnessed and the progress made by the world around it. Judged by this standard the Advocate is a centenarian. In long settled communities

<sup>1</sup> The author of this reminiscence may have been Mr. D. S. Crandall who at that time was editor of the Advocate.

affairs move at a uniform pace, and although great changes occur they take place so quietly as to attract little attention, towns expanding into cities almost without the knowledge of the busy inhabitants. Upward of five thousand new buildings were constructed in the City of New York last year, but the average citizen would not have known that even one of these structures had been added had not a special department of officials kept careful record of such improvements. But in a young village like ours a single additional edifice is an event, and a dozen new structures cause our bosoms to swell with pride and make us dream of street railways, gas, policemen's clubs, an opera house, burglars, a board of trade, oleomargarine factories, a rascally common council, Chinese laundries, sneak-thieves, and other metropolitan luxuries.

"It has been our fortune to witness the growth of the Advocate from its beginning to the present time, and probably no one knows better than ourself through what thorny paths it has traveled to reach the position it now occupies. We have seen its pages gradually expand to their present dimensions, and its subscription list grow from a few score to over twelve hundred, while its other patronage has correspondingly increased. From a rude settlement in the woods we have seen Sturgeon Bay blossom into a thriving city of almost two thousand people, and the trackless wilderness surrounding it become the home of more than fourteen thousand industrious inhabitants. Had any person predicted, twenty-one years ago, so great a change as this he would have been thought visionary. Yet our people have just begun to develop the resources of Door County. We are finding that its timber was by no means its most valuable feature, and it is only when the forests are swept away that the settler begins to lay the foundation of an enduring prosperity.

"Except the editor's 'salutatory' and a few brief paragraphs the first number of the Advocate contained no local intelligence, but this deficiency was compensated for by tolerably recent news of the war for the Union then in progress; and there being many gallant boys in blue from this vicinity their families were more interested in hearing of their achievements on the battlefield than in learning what their next-door neighbors were doing. Nor had the time yet come when people relied upon the press to supply them with a species of information that is now accepted as legitimate 'home news.' In those days had Thomas Belcher read in the local paper that he had come over here from Kangaroo Lake 'to have a little picnic with the boys,' which, being interpreted, means that he had been having a 'howling

drunk,' he would have presently been seen armed with a sled-stake in search of 'that infernal newspaper man.' Had Mr. Skidmore learned that he was smilingly setting up the cigars for everybody in commemoration of the birth of the ninth young Skidmore, while he really was only restrained by fear of the law from dropping number nine into the cistern, his visit to the editor would have been closely followed by that of an ambulance and a surgeon. When, in those primitive times, a man thrashed his wife, robbed a hen-roost, or pitched his daughter's beau over the fence, he considered the affair a purely domestic one in which the general public could have no possible interest, and he would have forcibly disputed an editor's right to give such intelligence to the world. When a misdemeanor was committed the offender was seized by the town constable, taken before a justice of the peace and fined, and there the matter ended. That is to say, the constable made the arrest unless he chanced to be too drunk to perform the duty; the magistrate heard the complaint provided he could be found and was sober enough to know a law book from a ledger; for in that time there was so little police business that His Honor could not be expected to keep his office open for business at all hours, as he was usually a carpenter, blacksmith or other artisan who generously sacrificed a part of his time on the altar of justice for the benefit of his fellow men. In case there was no hindrance from any of the causes mentioned, the carpenter swept the shavings from his bench with his apron, dusted his spectacles with the same garment, took down his docket, and seating himself on a sawhorse gravely listened to the evidence. The amount of the fine was so nicely adjusted to the size of the crowd that it was seldom necessary for the magistrate to pay the barkeeper anything out of his own pocket, though it did sometimes happen that through miscalculation the defendant was obliged to pay extra for his own drink. If the newspaper man was present he had his share of the refreshment, after which he retired to his cobwebby sanctum to write a heavy article on 'The Political Situation in Europe, and to search his exchanges for the most recent discovery in feeding swine and in keeping hens from eating their own eggs. He took it for granted that none of his patrons cared to read this week about what themselves or their neighbors had done the week before, and would no sooner have thought of chronicling the fact that Mrs. Gopsill had contributed to the census during her honeymoon, or that Deacon Snivler had capsized under a too heavy cargo of bug-juice, than he would have announced his own change of linen on Sunday morning. But the press

gang has improved on all this during the past twenty years, and people have learned to look to their home paper for the gossip which was formerly confined to the tea-table, the tavern, and the Doreas Society. The local journalist has wisely decided to leave general intelligence to the ponderous city daily, and to devote his attention to the smaller but not less important world in which he lives. He is no longer restricted to events of vital importance, but is expected to publish whatever happens in his vicinity, so that the columns of his journal shall be a faithful reflex of life around him. The newspaper reporter is now supposed to be ever on hand with note book and pencil, and whether it be a boiler or a lamp explosion, a runaway horse or a runaway couple, a smashed bank or a smashed toe, a man blown up by gunpowder or by his wife, a vessel captain's trouble with a schoonerload of lumber at sea or a schooner of beer on shore, a fight or a frolic, a feast or a funeral, a new calaboose or a new baby, the reporter must take it all in or be blamed for his remissness.

"Our files will show how far we have succeeded in catching the spirit of the times, and while we know that some events have managed to get away from us, we believe that the next idiot who tries to write a history of Door County will be able to give his readers something more interesting than a mass of graveyard epitaphs and his own portrait.

"We salute our esteemed friends as we open the twenty-second volume of this journal. That the Advocate is to them a welcome guest we have the assurance given by a subscription list second to that of no similar publication in the Northwest, and other grateful evidence. A very moderate estimate gives us upward of five thousand weekly readers. We are by no means unmindful of the duty we owe to this large constituency, and shall endeavor to perform that duty to their satisfaction. And as we thus begin anew the record of passing events we trust it will be long before the hand of fate shall close the labors of the Advocate or of any of its friends with the brief but sorrowful inscription, 'The End.' "

Under the able management of Mr. Long the Advocate continued to appear regularly every Thursday until his death in 1912. The paper then continued to be published by Mr. Long's family under the management of Dudley S. Long. The Advocate has always been republican in politics and has a circulation of almost three thousand copies.

On October 24, 1873, the second newspaper in Door County was



published. This was the *Expositor*, a small four-column, eight-page quarto, published by Pinney & Co. A. W. Lawrence was the "Co." and put up the funds while Geo. Pinney was the editor. Between the *Advocate* and the *Expositor* there promptly ensued a most bitter period of abuse and rivalry. The new paper for a time was commonly known as the *Hurdy-Gurdy* and seemed on general principles to be against everything advocated by Harry Harris, a son of Joseph Harris, who at this time was in charge of the *Advocate*. The following are fair samples of the "bouquets" handed out in this newspaper strife:

"The truly good deacon (i. e., Mr. Pinney) says he can imagine one situation in which we would tell the truth. We heartily wish we could say the same about him. But he is such an inveterate liar that when he becomes an inhabitant of the regions below he will swear he likes it while suffering the torments of the damned."<sup>2</sup>

This furious mud-slinging, of which the above is only a mild illustration, became a matter of remark in the state press. In an issue of the *Winneconne Items* the editor, referring to the nasty flavor of the quarrel of the Sturgeon Bay papers, says: "Sturgeon wants a mineral spring. We should think the *Advocate* and the good deacon might start one in partnership." To which the *Advocate* rejoins: "A good suggestion. We might furnish a barrel of soft water and the deacon might soak himself in it overnight and make it the foundation of a first class sulphur spring."<sup>3</sup>

This controversy, which drew many men into it, came near having a tragic ending. July 4, 1878, there was a grand celebration in Sturgeon Bay in honor of the joining of the waters of Green Bay and Lake Michigan by the partial completion of the canal. Judge Rufus M. Wright was master of ceremonies and succeeded in making it a very successful affair in which hundreds of visitors from other cities joined. He also read a very well written ode at the celebration in honor of the opening of the canal.<sup>4</sup> For all this he received much praise from the *Advocate*. The *Expositor*, Mr. Pinney's paper, however, ridiculed the whole affair, which was a bitter pill for Judge Wright. A few days later, when coming out of a saloon while under the influence of liquor, he met Mr. Pinney. Throwing his arm around him he pulled a revolver and said, "Pinney, you d—d old four-eyes, hic! I am going to shoot you!" Whereupon he blazed away, his shot

<sup>2</sup> Door County *Advocate*, August 27, 1874.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid*, August 20, 1874.

<sup>4</sup> Judge Wright was a poet of considerable ability, a number of his poems being printed in the *Advocate*. The ode referred to above is printed in the *Advocate* of July 11, 1878.

flying over Pinney's shoulder. A lawsuit followed but the judge was acquitted.

In April, 1875, Mr. Frank Long bought the Advocate and the quarrel came to an end for a time as far as the Advocate was concerned. In May, 1877, the Expositor was purchased by Charles I. Martin, who published and edited it until 1885.

While it seems strange that two newspapers should be published in such a crude wilderness as Door County was in 1873, there was one incentive which lured the publishers onward. This was the county printing. In the early days of this county its lands were not thought desirable for farming purposes. The legal title to the land was therefore usually suffered to lapse by the nonpayment of taxes as soon as the best timber was cut off. In this way thousands of tracts of land were annually offered for sale by the county clerk for the taxes. The fees for the publication of these tax deed notices were fixed by law at 80 cents per description. By a system of abbreviation it was possible to publish twenty-six descriptions to the inch, which entitled the publisher to \$7.80 per inch. In this way the income from county printing sometimes amounted to \$1,000 per year.

The county printing was, however, a too uncertain source of income to depend upon and Charles I. Martin was finally compelled to give up the publication of the Expositor. The last issue bears the date of February 26, 1886. The Advocate for March 11th contains a long and very sarcastic obituary writeup beginning as follows:

"Died—In this city on Friday, February 26, 1886, of paralysis of the brain and pocket, weakness of the spinal column, flatulence, swelled head, hard times, universal contempt, mismanagement, stupidity, ignorance, general debility and natural cussedness, the Weakly Expositor, aged about twelve years and four months.

"Affliction sore long time it bore,  
Physicians were in vain;  
Its troubles o'er, we nevermore  
Shall see its like again."

The departing editor, Mr. Chas. I. Martin, was a young man of pleasing personality and great enterprise but unstable and weak in management. He entered into various lines of business only to promptly fail. Finally he secured an important position as district manager for a large meat packing establishment. His duties necessitated the handling of large funds and his father-in-law, A. W. Lawrence, signed his bond for \$75,000. Not long after Mr. Martin with two companions left Menominee in an open boat for Sturgeon Bay.

They were never seen afterward nor was their boat found. Mr. Lawrence was obliged to pay the bond.

Mr. D. S. Crandall was at this time editor of the *Advocate*. He was an experienced journalist of wide reading, possessed a very vigorous and picturesque style and for some years made the *Advocate* the most readable newspaper in the state. He was a very hard worker and it was his wont to have a special article—a piece de resistance—of historic or humorous nature in almost every number. These extraordinary clever articles were read with huge enjoyment by everyone (unless he happened to be the victim of Mr. Crandall's excessively sarcastic pen) and the *Advocate* was week by week looked forward to with keen anticipation. In one thing, however, the *Advocate*, or rather Mr. Crandall, made a serious mistake. There was at this time much talk of a railroad and one project after another was launched. Influenced by the vessel interests the *Advocate* was induced to fight the railroad projects, ostensibly on the ground that the county would suffer from a bond issue. For a time the *Advocate* was successful in this opposition and Mr. Crandall's caustic wit and far-reaching pen knocked out one railroad project after another.<sup>5</sup>

This opposition to the railroad went much farther, however, than the peace-loving Mr. Long, the proprietor of the paper, had planned. The business interests of the city (with the exception of the vessel interests) were unanimously in favor of a railroad, and the more broad-minded men of the county also saw that unless inducements were made to persuade a railroad corporation to extend its line into the county there would be no real development of the county's resources. Due to his mistaken policy the *Advocate* was fast being looked upon as an obstructionist, a reputation which it took many years to conquer. As Mr. Crandall would not change his views and as personal differences had also entered it became necessary for him and Mr. Long in 1887 to part company.

In the meantime an important faction of the business men of Sturgeon Bay, disgusted with the *Advocate's* anti-railroad attitude, had started another paper. When the *Expositor* expired, February 26, 1886, the plant was bought and a new paper appeared the next week bearing the name of the *Independent*. The publishers were the Independent Publishing Company, which was incorporated March 1, 1886. The stockholders were A. W. Lawrence, C. L. Nelson, O. E. Dreutzer, E. S. Minor, L. M. Washburn, J. G. Wright, R. T. Thorp and W. B. Carr. The last was for a time editor of the paper. In

<sup>5</sup> For further details of this railroad opposition see the chapter on The Railroad.

spite of its staunch backing the paper lacked snap and vim, however, and after a year or so the publishers were constrained to go to their old enemy, Mr. Crandall, and secure his services as editor. For a time Mr. Crandall forgot his prejudice toward railroad bonds and lashed his old child, the *Advocate*, merrily. However, the evil fate that had followed the paper through its several transmutations was not easily overcome. After the stockholders had been called upon for several assessments in much esteemed bank notes their enthusiasm ebbed, particularly as the *Advocate*, now under Mr. Long's personal careful editorship, was no longer opposing the railroad. They were therefore glad to sell the paper to Joseph Harris, Jr., who changed its name to the *Republican*. In 1891 he sold out to his son, J. E. Harris.

There were many sidelights and cross currents in the keen rivalry between the *Advocate* and the *Expositor-Independent* which cannot here be discussed as the matter has now lost importance. Behind it all, however, were two rival factions scheming for supremacy in commercial and political circles. On one side was the Leatham & Smith crowd, backing the *Advocate*; on the other side was the A. W. Lawrence ring represented by the *Independent*.

During the latter '80s the Evergreen Nursery Co., under the management of J. J. Pinney (the son of Geo. Pinney, the founder) had been conducting a very extensive advertising campaign from their nursery in the Town of Sturgeon Bay. Part of this was done through a trade periodical called *The Ornamental and Forest Tree Grower*, the forms of which were made up at the nursery but printed by the *Advocate*. In this way Mr. Pinney gradually worked into doing much job work and advertising for other business men. At this time the democratic party was gaining great strength throughout the country due to the commanding influence of Grover Cleveland. As there were two republican newspapers in the county and no democratic to voice the sentiments of the large and growing number of democrats in the county Mr. Pinney decided to publish a democratic newspaper. About January 1, 1893, he made an announcement in the *Advocate* that he would shortly begin the publication of a newspaper for democrats to be called the *Door County Democrat*.

Among those who read this announcement was also J. E. Harris, the publisher of the *Republican*. Believing that the decisive hour had come he straightway tore out the old form that had for years contained the name of his paper, substituted in its place the letters *The Democrat* and the next week the readers of the county were highly edified to see their old republican paper appear under the name and preaching the

faith of another party. Not daunted by this flanking movement Mr. Pinney began the publication of the Door County Democrat January 28, 1893. For a couple of years there now existed the strange situation of two papers of the same name being published in the same little city. It was confusing enough for the people at home but they finally managed to differentiate the papers by calling Mr. Pinney's paper the Democrat and Mr. Harris' paper the "Little Democrat." To outsiders, however, confusion reigned supreme. Mail was mixed, bills were missent and embarrassing situations arose.

In order to put an end to this tangle Mr. Harris in 1895 decided on another bold stroke. He went to Marinette and there secured the services of Mr. Hugh McDonald, who was supposed to be a most compelling rough rider among newspapermen. Mr. McDonald came to Sturgeon Bay, girded up his loins and got out one issue as a sample of what he could do. This done he went down Cedar Street and had a grand celebration. With this skyrocket exploit the "Little Democrat" suddenly expired. Mr. Pinney bought the subscription list and Mr. Harris departed for other fields.

The Door County Democrat was originally started by J. J. Pinney and Kirk J. Shepard. Mr. Shepard was associated with the paper for only one year and was succeeded by G. W. Allen, one of the old attorneys of the county.

Mr. Pinney proved an able newspaper man and under his management the Democrat developed into a popular and influential sheet. He remained as editor, publisher and proprietor of the paper for eighteen years, until his death on July 30, 1909. Shortly before his death he built the large office building in which the Democrat is housed, which when built was the largest business building in the city.

In March, 1910, following the death of Mr. Pinney, the Democrat passed into new hands, having been purchased by old employees of the paper. The new owners incorporated under the name of the Door County Publishing Company, and became the sole owners and publishers of the paper, all owning an equal interest.

The new owners were Herbert J. Sanderson, editor and general manager; Edward L. Houle, news editor; Arthur T. Harris, secretary and treasurer; and J. E. Harris, foreman of the mechanical department. In September of the following year Messrs. Sanderson, Houle and Harris purchased the interest of J. E. Harris in the business, and continued as sole proprietors and publishers of the Democrat.

The officers of the Door County Publishing Company are: H. J.

WHS

Sanderson, president and manager; Edward L. Houle, vice president; A. T. Harris, secretary and treasurer. No other persons are interested in the business.

The first typesetting machine to be installed in a Door County printing office was installed in the Democrat in 1911, and was a Mergenthaler Junior. The rapid growth of the paper soon outgrew this machine, and in December, 1914, a Model 14 Mergenthaler Linotype machine was installed. It was the best standard machine on the market at that time and was the third of the kind to be installed in the State of Wisconsin. The Model 14 carries three complete magazines and three molds, and an auxiliary magazine for large advertising figures and display newspaper headings.

Under the present management the Democrat has never indulged in personalities or fights through the columns of the paper. Its columns have always been free from abuse in every form.

The Democrat is republican in politics under its present ownership and has a circulation of almost three thousand copies weekly.

The Door County News was started July 1, 1914, by the Door County News Publishing Co. The incorporators were E. M. LaPlant, W. E. Wagener and Rudolph Soukop. E. M. LaPlant is president of the company and editor of the paper. C. A. Lundberg is vice president and W. I. Wagener is secretary and treasurer. It has stockholders in every town in the county and is independent in politics.

Door County has been fortunate in its newspapers. Owing to its peculiar geographical situation it has never been burdened with a multitude of inefficient sheets, having never had more than three at one time. These three have found a freer field for growth, never having suffered much from competition by newspapers of other counties. As a result they have been able, most of the time, to pull together in a larger way for the good of the county than is the case where several papers are published in different rival parts of a county. They have also been very ably edited. Mr. Joseph Harris, Sr., the pioneer newspaper man, was an editor of exceptional and most well balanced gifts. He was followed by Mr. Long, who for a generation published a paper that was considered one of the best in the state. I forbear from saying anything about the present publishers and editors, as this work does not contemplate advertising any business of the present day at the expense of a competitor.

Among the county's newspaper men Mr. D. S. Crandall stands conspicuously forth because of his brilliant style. Judged by present

standards Mr. Crandall exhibited serious faults as an editor, but newspaper standards have changed. A generation ago his style was a model which many sought after but few achieved. Aside from his merits or demerits as an editor of a rural weekly, Mr. Crandall was a man of rare literary talent—a humorist who would have won national fame if he had written in more favorable environments. I append two or three of his articles culled from the great number he has written for the Advocate. These selections have been made not only for their literary quality but also for their historic interest. It should be borne in mind that these articles were written amid the bustle and distraction of a busy newspaper office.

#### THE SHEARING OF THE SHEEP

“A few years ago Alex. Templeton, of Sevastopol, decided to engage in sheep raising. For the purposes of working into the business gradually he began with two sheep. He now has about five times that number. He would have had more if the hoodlums down there had not amused themselves by harassing the flock until several of the ewes lost their lambs, as recorded by us several months ago. This would not have happened if Aleck had anticipated the trouble by loading his army musket with slugs and spending a few days in gunning for boys before turning his sheep loose. It unfortunately happens that there is in this country no regular season in which it is lawful to shoot all boys running at large unmuzzled. Our legislators have thus far neglected to offer any bounty for boys’ scalps, although the slaughter of other noxious vermin is encouraged. Until this error is corrected there will be little use in trying to raise sheep, fruit or girls, and thus some of our most important industries must be paralyzed for lack of a little gunpowder and buckshot. They manage these things much better in some of the South Sea Islands. Every year the inhabitants ‘round up’ the boys just as the Texans do their cattle for branding. The surplus boys are killed, roasted and eaten, and the islanders are happy for the next twelve months. Apples are raised in the open air in that country. Chickens fearlessly roost on the fences. A dog is never seen with a tomato can hitched to his tail. It is a nice country to live in.

“The first sheep of Mr. Templeton’s flock having come from eastern Sevastopol, the people of that part of the township have always manifested a deep interest in Aleck’s success. The interest is sincere and disinterested. In addition to several thousand dollars’

worth of good advice, they have given him much material assistance in the management of his sheep. Especially has this been so at shearing time. While Aleck was attending school they forgot to teach him to shear sheep. He can weave anything under the stars, but he couldn't get the wool off the sheep without skinning the animal. If it were not for his friends his flock would probably travel around all summer with their winter clothes on. It has thus come to pass that every spring, a detachment of his eastern Sevastopol neighbors journey over to the bay shore to help Aleck gather his wool crop. At first the number of these people was not large, but as the flock increased in size so has the band of shearers, until this year about sixteen persons assembled to assist in the job. As there were seven sheep to be sheared this gave an average of a little more than two people to each animal. Aleck was afraid there were not enough to finish the work in one day, and was about to send up to town for re-enforcements, but upon consulting with some experienced shepherds who were of the party he was assured that there were men enough present to mow the wool if the women would attend to the raking and binding.

"The visitors from eastern Sevastopol were James R. Mann and wife, George Bassford and wife, Henry Martin and wife, Jacob Crass and wife, and Henry B. Stephenson. From the bay shore were Robert Laurie and wife, Mrs. H. Seidemann, and Mrs. Leidiger, while Idlewild and Sturgeon Bay were represented by J. T. Wright and wife, Ella Wright and Ross Wright. The whole of Mr. Templeton's large house was thrown open to the guests, and although their coming partook of the nature of a surprise party, Mrs. Add Templeton hastened to make all welcome, being assisted in her hospitable labors by Mrs. Seidemann. The eastern Sevastopol delegation had brought with them enough provisions to stock a small grocery, which seems to indicate that they had come over quite as much to have a picnic as to engage in wool-gathering.

"After an interchange of social, domestic, agricultural, horticultural, and other interesting intelligence, the farmers prepared for the great work of the day. Then a lively discussion arose as to the proper method of securing the sheep in order to obtain their fleeces. A few thought it would be necessary to run the animals down, but this was objected to as involving too much exercise in a country strewn with fallen timber. A proposition to shoot the sheep was received with favor, but was discarded because somebody happened to recollect that if the sheep were killed they would not lay any wool next year. The party was becoming quite discouraged, and a motion to postpone the



shearing until next spring was about to prevail when a distinguished farmer from eastern Sevastopol announced that it was perfectly easy to catch a sheep after salt had been put on its tail. It was then remembered that before starting from Sevastopol a quantity of salt had been procured for this very purpose and was then out in the wagons. This information relieved the general gloom, and the party at once started for the yard to unload the salt. It was found just as stated, and was contained in small barrels of which there were three. This was more than actually needed to catch seven sheep, but, as one of the grangers sensibly remarked, 'It was much better to have too much of a good thing than too little.' The barrels were unloaded and taken to the cellar, where one of them was soon opened for inspection, but to the consternation of the grangers the contents proved to be not salt at all but a liquid substance of a color resembling six-months-old rain water. It was evident that in the haste of departure the wrong barrel had been put in the wagon. There being much curiosity as to the character of the fluid, an expert was requested to examine and report. He filled a tin dipper with the stuff and gazed at it with a critic's eye. 'It looks like beer,' he gravely remarked. He held it to his nose and sniffed the odor. 'It smells like beer,' said he. Then he poured some of it down his throat. 'It tastes like beer. And upon my word, boys,' he solemnly declared as he dropped the empty dipper, 'it is beer.' Encouraged by his example the other agriculturists took turns at the dipper and successively confirmed the verdict of the expert. While all admitted that it was a great misfortune that the small barrels contained beer instead of salt, it was generally acknowledged that the mistake might have been more serious. For example, the barrels might have been filled with water. Knowing that they never would hear the last of it if the women discovered the blunder that had been made, the men joined hands over the beer kegs and faithfully promised that the dark secret should perish with them.

"Meanwhile the farmers' wives up-stairs were anxiously waiting to see the wool harvest begin, some of them not having seen the operation performed. One of the inexperienced having inquired how the wool was obtained, a sister ruralist who knew all about it obligingly informed her that the sheep were first put to soak for half an hour when the wool came off easily. At this there was a perfect gale of laughter from the other shepherdesses.

" 'Why, what are you laughing at?' asked Mrs. X. 'That's the way they do it, for I have seen them many a time.'

" 'It was only sheep washing you saw, my dear,' explained Mrs.

Z. 'The wool is taken off afterwards and is done in a very different way.'

" 'Well, how do they get it off, then?' asked Mrs. X.

" 'I thought everybody knew that,' responded Mrs. Z; 'they pluck them just as they do geese, of course.'

" At this the gale of mirth increased to a cyclone. The men down cellar heard the racket, and thinking there was a change in the weather they again passed round the tin dipper.

" 'Oh, that is too gorgeously funny for anything!' exclaimed Mrs. Y when the laughter permitted her to be heard. 'The idea of a farmer's wife not knowing any better than that. Plucking sheep, indeed! Ha ha, ha.' And she went off into another fit of merriment.

" 'Perhaps I don't know,' indignantly exclaimed Mrs. Z. 'I never saw it done, but I have heard of "sheep's pluck" hundreds of times, and so has every lady in this room.'

" 'So we have,' chorused the others.

" 'Of course you have,' said Mrs. Y., 'but it had nothing to do with wool. "Sheep's pluck" is the heart, liver and lights of the animal, and these grow on the inside, while the wool grows on the outside.'

" 'Oh, it does, does it?' sneered Mrs. Z. 'Well, since you know more about it than I do, suppose you tell us how they get off the wool.'

" 'I will, with pleasure, my love. The operation is extremely simple. They fill a barrel with hot water, put the sheep in it for a short time, then they pull it out and in a few minutes they have the wool nicely scraped off. The sheep squeal in a shocking manner as though they didn't like it—'

" A jolly burst of laughter interrupted Mrs. Y.'s explanation.

" 'That settles it,' said a middle aged lady as she wiped the tears from her eyes. 'We know all about it now. Why, woman, you are thinking of pig killing time. Scalding a sheep to get its wool off! Well I never.'

" What further interesting disclosures in sheep management would have been made will never be known, for the discussion was stopped by the appearance of the men on the grounds outside. A council of war in the cellar led to a court-martial to discover who had basely substituted kegs of Leidiger's beer for the salt needed to capture the sheep.

" The drivers were subjected to a severe examination, but if they knew anything about the fraud they could not be induced to give it away. The judge advocate tried to refresh their memories by pass-

ing round the tin dipper, but in vain. The witnesses would empty the dipper but would not acknowledge their guilt.

"It was now about the middle of the afternoon. Unless something were soon decided upon the chief business of the day would be left undone. At this crisis Aleck Templeton recollected that he had in his library a book that contained full information about sheep growing. He found the book and a brief study of its pages made the whole matter plain. The crowd was so much relieved by this discovery that they set up another keg and started the dipper on a fresh cruise. The sheep were driven into a pen and while the other grangers stood around to offer an occasional word of advice or encouragement, James R. Mann grasped the shears and with a dexterity which showed him to be a master hand at the work rapidly and neatly relieved the sheep of their fleeces. By the time the shearing was completed the ladies had prepared the dinner, and the party took their places at table. To those who are acquainted with the persons who composed the gathering it is unnecessary to say that in Sevastopol or any other town it would not be easy to find a more whole-souled, jolly, and fun-loving lot of people. For the next two or three hours there was the gayest kind of a mass-meeting, and it was not until the sun was about to go to bed in the blue waters of Green Bay that the shepherds and shepherdesses wrapped their plaids around them and started for their distant homes. As they passed out of sight they could be heard merrily singing:

" 'I want to be a granger,  
And with the grangers stand,  
A corn crib on my shoulder  
And a haystack in my hand.

" 'I've bought myself a Berkshire ram  
And a Cochin-China cow,  
A lock-stitch nickel-plated pig  
And a patent leather plow.

" 'Beneath the tall tomato tree  
I swing the glittering hoe,  
And smite the wild potato bug  
As he skips o'er the snow.' "

From the Advocate of June 7, 1883.

## WHERE IS MY COW TONIGHT?

"Those who have cows that are obliged to pick up a living along highways and in the woods, should be blessed with a more than ordinary amount of patience and muscle in order to pass through these midsummer days without kicking the stuffing out of the Ten Commandments. The scanty herbage to be found at this season makes it necessary for a cow to travel nearly all over the county in search for enough forage to keep herself in good health, and it not unnaturally follows that when she has finally succeeded in raking in a tolerably good meal she feels no inclination to return to the diet of sand and sawdust that is her portion as long as she remains in the village. She, therefore, skirmishes around for a soft and shady spot wherein to chew her cud, as though it was a matter of no interest to her whether or not she ever again knocked over the family milk-pail or sent the dairy maid sprawling about the barnyard. But what is fun for the cow is quite reverse for the person whose task it is to seek and bring the vagrant heifer home. As every proprietor 'goes it alone' in these cow hunts, each evening sees no inconsiderable number of our townspeople girding up their loins preparatory to an excursion of whose length, breadth, direction and result they have no conception whatever. And a tramp through the airless woods on these simmering hot summer afternoons is no pleasure trip. It seems as though nature purposely throws obstacles in the way of the perspiring pedestrian. There are mosquitoes, gnats and other bloodsucking insects to assail the face and hands, briars to grasp the clothing and scratch the limbs, while fallen timbers and thick growing underbrush often cause the traveler to wish that he had taken the other road.

"If the average cow gave a barrel or two of milk at each session, and that milk was so thick with cream that it had to be blasted out of the pans with nitro-glycerine and churned into tons of butter by a fifty horse-power Corliss engine, then the prospective rewards might encourage and console the weary searchers. But since at this time of the year these animals have all they can do to hold themselves together, and rarely 'give down' more than a quart or so at a milking, it does seem to the man on the fence that the game is hardly worth the candle. And when we take into consideration the demoralizing effect which these journeys have upon the cow boys, we wonder that the country is not full of 'Societies for the Suppression of the Cows.' We care not how virtuous a boy may naturally be, nor under what refined influence he may be reared. He may have been brought up by a

tender mother who held the Westminster Catechism in one hand and a trunk strap in the other. She may have impressed upon his mind the facts that it is wicked to lie, steal, swear, and suck goose eggs, and he may have traveled for years in the straight and narrow path; but set that boy to hunting after a cow every night and he will go whooping along the broad-gauge route to perdition at the rate of a mile a minute. We do not pretend to explain the phenomenon. Perhaps it is owing to the weather! Perhaps the mosquitoes are to blame. He may have had an unsatisfactory interview with a nest of yellow-jackets, or the cow herself may have trodden upon his sore toe. But whatever may be the cause, that boy is headed so surely towards the penitentiary in this life and a sulphuric broil in the next that nothing less than the sharp tuition of a reform school can switch him off the track.

"It is not beer, or cigars, or flirting with girls and kindred follies that are undermining the morality of the age and yanking our youth down to an early and frequent acquaintance with police magistrates and calaboose sawdust. It is the cow—the temper-destroying, curse-compelling Cow. It is in chasing up hill and down dale after this Wandering Jew of ruminant animals that our otherwise well-behaved boys are transformed into howling hoodlums.

"It is in searching for her, weary, foot-sore and supperless, that the boy takes the first downward steps that may end in his becoming a lawyer, an editor, a legislator or other social outcast. If we were asked how this grievous evil can be arrested, we should promptly advise the immediate and complete extermination of the Cow from the face of the earth. But as this remedy would be so expensive as to meet with strong opposition, we have another which we confidently believe will achieve the desired results. It is simply to compel every owner of a cow to procure and use our recently invented 'Universal Cow-Jerker.' The operation of this device is so simple that it can be understood by the person of ordinary intelligence. It is only necessary to attach to the animal's tail a stout rope of sufficient length to permit her to graze over a reasonable extent of territory. At the home end of the rope a windlass is to be planted, and when milking times comes the crank is turned and the cow is slowly but surely reeled into the barnyard. We do not need to be told that this machine has its objectionable features, and that accidents to the cow are liable to happen, from its use. She may occasionally get snagged out in the timber, or become mixed up with a log fence, in which cases either the rope or her tail would give way. In the latter event the cable

can be transferred to her head, and when this is also pulled out by the roots, her usefulness as a milker will be so seriously impaired that it will probably be as well to transfer the rope to a new cow. The 'Universal Cow-Jerker' is not patented, but is freely given to suffering humanity in the hope that it may achieve the purpose for which it is designed. If it should be instrumental in keeping even one boy from cussing, and swearing, and throwing stones, we shall not have exercised our inventive faculties in vain.

"That this machine, or something equally effective, is needed must be evident to every observant person. It is but a few mornings since that we met one of our townsmen who returned home with his cow. He had not been able to find her on the previous evening, and this is no wonder, for when we met him he was on the last lap of the tenth mile of his tramp after the brute. 'I have been having a h—ll of a time looking for my cow!' he exclaimed in response to our salutation, as he mopped his face with a grimy semblance of a handkerchief. Under ordinary circumstances we would have sharply rebuked his profane outburst. But the morning was extremely warm; there was no breeze stirring; the roads were ankle deep with dust, and the man had not yet breakfasted. Taking these things into account we put ourselves in his place, and quickly reached the conclusion that in a like situation we, too, might have been tempted by the Evil One to forget our early religious training and to express our feelings in language more robust and emphatic than if we were addressing a Bible class. We had walked but a short distance further when we encountered a small boy who was trudging at the tail of a cow whose full udder furnished strong circumstantial evidence that she had slept away from home on the previous night. This evidence was corroborated by the boy himself, who casually remarked that he had been having a 'h—ll of a time looking for his cow.' As the little boy was limping from a stonebruise on his heel; as his hat looked as if it might have been kicked by a mule through three-quarters of a mile of blackberry bushes; as he was ornamented from head to foot with a species of burr familiarly known as 'beggars' lice,' we did not doubt the truthfulness of his assertion, though we felt that he was using language that was from twelve to fifteen sizes too large for him. And when, a few minutes later, we met a limp woman with bonnet askew driving a heifer, we were so sure that she had been having the same kind of a time looking for her cow that we did not stop to talk to her, for it pains us to hear a woman swear.

"But we had already heard enough to satisfy us that everybody

was having a disagreeable time in cow-hunting just now, and that these perverse beasts were responsible for a frightful amount of profanity.

"If we were so unfortunate as to possess a cow that had so little regard for our salvation as to wander five miles into the country and there remain until we went out to invite her to return, she would have to say her prayers in a hurry if she finished them before we turned her into corn beef. But there are people who want milk more than they want meat, and as long as such persons exist among us, cows will be regarded as a necessary evil. It is to such as these that we recommend our 'Universal Cow-Jerker,' by the use of which they may continue to have cream in their coffee and at the same time remain consistent members of their church, while their boys will ornament society instead of joining the chain-gang at Waupun. Unless our suggestion is adopted the present work of demoralization will go on until the whole social fabric is in ruins, and throughout the uncivilized world, instead of the usual friendly greetings it will come to pass that men, women and children and even babes and sucklings will join in the universal refrain, 'I'm having a h—ll of a time looking for my cow!'"

From the Advocate of September 22, 1881.

The author of the following merry "Ballad of the Bold Britisher" is unknown. It appeared in the Advocate in 1885. I have been at considerable pains to learn its authorship but have failed. All signs point to Mr. Crandall, but he will not admit that he wrote it. A few words of introduction are necessary.

In the early '80s three doughty graduates from Oxford University appeared amid the slashings of Jacksonport. They were Mortimer Hales Crosse, John Leschmere and Frank Stradling. They came, three cheerful adventurers and remittance men, from England, apparalled in the latest skin-tight hunting costumes and monacles, avowedly for the purpose of hunting buffaloes in Jacksonport, and incidentally to visit a relative back in the timber. As the buffaloes were very scarce in Jacksonport at that time and as the remittances failed to appear on schedule time, they laid aside their guns and monacles and tried their hand at chopping cordwood to eke out the slender board at their relative's humble home. As cordwood chopping proved a dull and weary job they soon left their axes, seized their guns and tramped to Sturgeon Bay, hoping to shoot a grizzly bear or two on the way. In Sturgeon Bay the long lost remittances were found and

for a time they were a great comfort to the barkeepers of Cedar Street and good cheer to the local youth. When the local youth learned that they yearned for wild game of any sort they one night piloted them out where a flock of wooden decoys were sitting on the moonlit water. Wooden decoys being new to these sportsmen, they energetically blazed away for quite a while before they discovered that these American ducks were quite immune to shot.

In this merry way they spent several years in and around Sturgeon Bay, most of the time waiting for remittances which always were inexplicably late in arriving. Mr. Stradling finally settled down in the city and become a respectable insurance man and justice of the peace. Mr. Leschmere sought a larger field. Mr. Crosse returned to his ancestral home—not to be hung as the poet in the ballad prophecies but to become a most worshipful divine in the Church of England.

**"THE BALLAD OF THE BOLD BRITISHER"**

Wherein is Narrated Some of the Surprising Trans-Atlantic Achievements of Mortimer Hales Crosse

*By Leo and Leo-Nardus*

Now listen gentles all to me,  
The subject of my song shall be  
The most veracious historee  
Of Morty Crosse:  
He was a gallant, straight and tall;  
The admiration he of all  
The country round, both great and small—  
A mighty boss.

His store of cheek was quite untold;  
His look was high, his bearing bold;  
His pockets fairly lined with gold,  
And thus he went  
To Yankee-land, and traveled through  
Its states and cities not a few,  
And picked up new ideas to  
A great extent.

When landed on the western strand  
His "pard" and he went off inland  
To fell the forest timber grand  
Upon the creek;



## HISTORY OF DOOR COUNTY

And there a trunk so vast they found  
That Morty, going one way round,  
Lost of his "pard" all sight and sound  
For quite a week.

One day did Morty careless rove  
Amid the trackless virgin grove,  
And whistled like a merry cove  
"Grandfather's Clock,"  
When lo! from out the leafy shade  
A little bird an answer made,  
With sharps and flats correctly played  
The song did mock.

One day, he says, they hunted bear;  
His "pard" and he, a cheerful pair,  
They tracked poor Bruin to his lair,  
His pride to humble;  
The bear came forth; in vain they tried  
With many a shot to pierce his hide;  
At last they had,—or Morty lied,—  
A rough and tumble.

"Come out," unto his "pard" he cried;  
"Let's launch upon the swelling tide;  
I'll show you how we British guide  
The light outrigg;  
This is the way the Oxford crew,  
And this is how the Cambridge, too,  
The famous Putney race pull through  
On Thames so big."

Then Morty settled in his seat  
And spread himself to do the feat,  
Dug in the sculls with action neat,  
And with a will,  
When lo! was heard a mighty crash,  
Up flew his heels with merry dash.  
And Morty, with a 'tarnal splash,  
Them both did spill.

Then while his "pard" heaven's grace did sue  
'Tis said (and this I fear is true),  
That Morty's speech, exceeding blue,  
Darkened the air;

And then amidst most doleful squeals  
They hung his "pard" up by the heels,  
And pumped him dry and picked the eels  
Out of his hair.

A certain main in Kansas Town  
Possessed a steed of great renown,  
Whose fame was mighty up and down,  
His speed so great  
That when to business he did ride,  
And sit him down his store inside,  
That horse's shadow in would glide  
Five minutes late.

Alas! the noble steed fell ill;  
Then Morty said, "I have great skill  
In matters equine, and I will  
Your steed restore  
To perfect health once more alive;  
My fee is dollars twenty-five;  
Your Gee-gee then you'll ride and drive  
Just as before."

So Morty put on all his side,  
And cut that Gee-gee deep and wide,  
But when for payment he applied  
The boss was dead.  
The owner, mad at Morty's tricks,  
Instead of dollars paid him kicks;  
(His pistol's length was two feet six),  
• So Morty fled.

And now it fell from want of cash  
This noble youth, this Shropshire mash,  
Came down at length to slinging hash,  
At least he tried;  
But when he'd broken every plate,  
Which happened at an early date,  
The boss on him with boot did wait  
And said, "Now slide!"

At length, his wand'rings nearly o'er,  
Bold Morty seeks his native shore,  
But when he counts his shekels' store  
He finds them few;

## HISTORY OF DOOR COUNTY

He cannot dig, and friends no more  
 Will loan him dollars as before,  
 And though of weapons he's a store,  
     What can he do?

At length he finds an uncle kind  
 Who says he'll help to raise the wind  
 If Morty'll leave his guns behind  
     As souvenirs,  
 —Now reached at length his native shore  
 Again he fights his battles o'er,  
 And each time taller than before  
     The tale appears.

## MORAL.

'Two morals now I think we see:  
 The first is plain to you and me,  
 That "in it" Fiction ne'er can be  
     With Morty's Truth;  
 Then, as he's passed through perils more  
 Than ever mortal did before,  
 'Tis plain there's hempseed planted for  
     This guileless youth.

The first poet in Door County was Allen G. Powers, once chairman of the Town of Gibraltar. In 1857 he wrote the pretty poem on Kangaroo Lake which is printed in the chapter on Baileys Harbor. Mr. Powers moved to Beloit at an early date.

Rufus M. Wright was a man of considerable poetic ability. His "Ode to the Fourth of July" already referred to in this chapter shows high literary ability. From time to time other poems were published by him. At the soldiers' reunion in Sturgeon Bay in 1885 he delivered a poem entitled "Decoration Day 1865." It begins:

"Gloomy and dark and sad the day  
 When traitor hands essayed to stay  
 The onward march of Freedom's way  
 And sought our nation's peace to slay."

In this poem several passages of beauty and true poetic touch occur as for instance in the following lines:

"There is no death to those who live  
Unselfishly alone, to give  
All that they have to well achieve  
A great, high purpose; do not grieve.

"When holy is the cause you choose,  
And in that cause your life you lose,  
The Master says you surely shall  
Find it again; be sure you will."

Two or three poems extolling the beauties of Ephraim have been written by summer resorters. The following poem on "Door County" by Harry E. Dankoler is well worth preserving:

"Door County! pride of Badger State!  
Our lives to her we consecrate!  
Though foreign born or native son  
We'll serve her till our work is done!

"From North to South, from East to West,  
She is by Nature truly blest;  
Of all our state she is the gem—  
The brightest in its diadem!

"While fairer land ne'er saw the sun,  
Her progress has but just begun;  
Rich, too, she is in men of deeds—  
'Door County Does,' their motto reads.

"Her climate fine, and air so pure,  
Alone will make her fame endure.  
Her highways broad, from town to town,  
Have won her praise and great renown.

"Her headlands bold along the bay  
No pen or brush can well portray;  
And those who love to sail or fish,  
Can gratify their cherished wish.

"Her Park has sylvan charm and shore  
Where wavelets laugh or billows roar;  
Where rich or poor may camp and rest,  
And know himself a welcome guest.

"Her soil is rich—her pastures green—  
Choice dairy herds can there be seen;  
With apples sweet and cherries tart,  
Door County fills the city mart.

"She now extends a hand to all  
Who answer to her welcome call;  
So enter all our 'Little Door'—  
And see her lands and fruit galore!"

The most important contribution to literature by Door County people is two novels written by Mrs. Alice Prescott Smith. Mrs. Smith is a daughter of Rev. G. W. Prescott, the first Congregational minister in the county. He lived in Sturgeon Bay from 1880 to 1891. Mrs. Smith's first novel is entitled "Mont Livet." The scene is principally laid in Door County about the year 1700. Many pretty and highly dramatic pictures are painted of Washington Island, Sturgeon Bay and Idlewild. Mrs. Smith's second novel centers around the great forest fire of 1871. It is a highly realistic and vivid story and is entitled "The Legatee." Both novels are as good as the average best sellers.

A third novel, "Lazarre," by Mrs. Catherwood, was also written in Door County while the author was spending the summer at Mr. Parkinson's home in Egg Harbor. One or two characters of Sturgeon Bay are portrayed.



INCREASE CLAPLIN  
First white settler of Door County



## CHAPTER XXIV

### PENINSULA STATE PARK

Far away from the thousand hills of Wisconsin the waters of Green Bay are gathered. They come purling out of the gushing springs and gather together into little rills and ramble seaward. Into mighty rivers they join, like the swift Menominee, the somber Peshigo and the famous Fox River. From cataract to cataract they leap, until at last they spread themselves on the bosom of the Emerald Sea.

Away up at this head and beginning of the Bay, the waters spread out sluggishly, with shallow, weed-grown bottoms, where the wild fowl stop to chatter on their flight to the tropics. Here the banks are low and the waters turgid, as if seeking rest. Perhaps they are weary of the busy hum of the cities that dot the Fox River Valley, and fatigued with turning the innumerable wheels of industry that line the banks. Gently the waves roll seaward, caressing the timbered shores, tempering the chill western winds and graciously giving to the peninsula that lies on its eastern border a climate and seasons of wonderful efficacy for growing luscious fruits.

But the air of the Green Bay Basin is invigorating, laden with life-stirring ozone from its evergreen forests. Soon, too, the sea feels new life pulsating within its deep. From the East to the West and on to the North, it rushes, seeking a nearby opening to join its big brother Michigan.

Off to the east the green-topped hills fall apart, making a big opening for Sturgeon Bay. Into this bay the sea leaps and bounds exultantly, believing that it has found a channel to Lake Michigan. For eight miles the waves roll merrily inward, fed by this delusion, only to be stranded at last on the sands of the narrow isthmus, almost within sight of the Big Sea beyond.

Enraged by this obstacle the sea now hastens out of the narrow confines of Sturgeon Bay and turns northward. It rushes past the palisaded cliffs of Door County and hurls itself furiously against the many crags and islands that oppose it. It throws big columns of



spray and foam across Hat Island and Green Island, churns and lashes the long-swept beaches of Chambers Island and leaps in blind fury from boulder to boulder along the rocky strands of the Strawberry Islands.

At this place, a long, rock-ribbed promontory, top crowned with deep green woods, stretches far out across the path of the raging sea. Behind it, as if leaning over its shoulder, rise two noble cliffs in perpendicular grandeur, leaning forward as if better to see what is disturbing the peace of this secluded region. For here is Peninsula Park, the sylvan dreamland of the North.

But the roaring sea cares nothing about sylvan seclusion. It throws itself against the limestone battlements of the promontory, as if to grind it into powder. It thunders against the rock-strewn shore with the sound of a thousand cannon. It screams and bellows and booms in wild fury, throwing its white-flecked spray even to the tops of the trees. At last, its most violent efforts fruitlessly spent, it slips past the firm battlements of Eagle Point, soon to be engulfed by the big gray sea it has been seeking.

But the waters around Peninsula Park are not always heaving in turbulent fury. On the contrary, that is exceptional. Most of the time, the Bay lies placid, gently caressing the pebbly beach, like a lazy kitten reaching out a playful paw. Smoother than glass and almost as transparent, the sea stretches out to a boundless horizon. Looking down through the glass bottom of your boat, you see big tang-covered boulders strewn about. Among them grow an innumerable multitude of sea bottom shrubbery, waving slightly as some strong-finned denizen of the deep pushes his easy way among them. Here a school of minnows appear—a thousand or two—sporting in carefree opulence. Suddenly there is a wild scramble, as a rock bass shoots like lightning into their midst.

Nine miles it has of such a waterfront, varying with almost every boatlength in changing vistas. Here are craggy promontories with pine tops whistling in the wind. Here are sandy beaches, with a firm gravel bottom reaching out a quarter of a mile. Here are jutting rocks, over which the spray dashes gaily. Here are white-faced precipices, almost attaining the dignity of mountains. Here are mysterious caves, opening to the breathing sea. Here are land-locked coves and reedy bayous, inviting to solitude and meditation, where the deep romantic woods creep down to the shore, calling to the mariner of a place where it is always afternoon.

But the charms of Peninsula Park are not all of the scintillating

water front. Up high on top of those towering cliffs lies the Park proper, 4,000 acres of hills and dales. Chicago has a generous park area, but all of Chicago's many parks could be tucked away here and yet leave room for a dozen good sized farms. But no scissor-trimmed garden hedges here speak of man's puny efforts. Here Nature is the landscape gardener, mixing valleys and timbered slopes, open glades and lowly marshlands about in bounteous munificence. Here are glens, gleaming with coy wild flowers, hillsides glowing with blooming orchards and dark forest recesses, where reigns the spirit of Pan.

Aye! The woods! The forest! Where this side of Mariposa can you find such woods? All the trees of the North have here met and rule unitedly. Here is not only the sturdy oak, the graceful birch, the broad maple, the gorgeous cherry. Here are also the stalwart ash, the sinuous elm, the ancient beech and the brawny ironwood. Here the brilliant sumac endeavors to outdazzle the glowing dogwood in color, hard pressed by the mountain ash and the elderberry. The dainty locust, the mournful willow, the spreading butternut and the stout linden are here and a score of others. Here, too, chief among all, is the royal pine, while around him stand the worshipping balsam, the cheery cedar and the dreamy hemlock.

Where elsewhere can such a goodly company of ancient royalties be found? Where elsewhere can one walk beneath such noble temple arches? Strong and straight as the pillars in the temple of Karnak they stand. But they are not dead and decaying as those famous imitations of man. They are radiant with life, while their heads, 100 feet up, bend gently and reminiscently to the salutation of the south wind.

"Since the creation of the world, we have reigned this ground," they seem to say, "and our crown shall overshadow it until time's last crash of thunder is heard. The storms of centuries and millenniums have raged around us, the thunders of primeval times have pealed over our heads and the earth has quaked under our feet. Yet, youthful as ever we stand. In the foundations of the earth we have fixed our feet, the snows of a thousand winters we have proudly thrown off our limbs and the summer floods we have sucked up as nourishment for our roots. The lightfooted deer have browsed on our underbrush in peace, the wolf and the bear have undisturbedly nourished their young in our shade, and your red brother has in days gone by gathered healing herbs between our feet. Now, white man, we would also be a solace and a benediction to thee. Take a lesson in serenity from us!

Banish from thy mind all unclean thoughts and sordid passions, the idle pursuit of riches, the vain dictates of fashion and the frivolous gayety of the weakminded. Fulfill thy destiny as we have ours and thou wilt be a blessing to others, as we have been to thee!"

You, reader, who have sat in the shade of Eagle Cliff, towering behind you "like a great rock in a weary land," with the sea before you like a silver field, your ears entertained by the murmur of the rockborn spring, your eyes delighted with curving shores and emerald islands, while far up in the sublime heights an eagle is majestically poised—you have felt that nowhere is more perfect scenery. Other scenes may excel in this point or that, but nowhere is there a more harmonious combination of land and sea and distant view. Is a Sicilian sunset more fair than that which meets the view of Sunset Cliff? Are the waters of the Bay of Naples as limpid as those that lave these shores? Is the Mediterranean sky tinged with a fairer blue than that which vaults Peninsula Park?

Peninsula Park! Your graces are three: They are Purity, Harmony and Dignity.

The movement to create a state park in Door County had its beginning in 1907. In that year certain residents of Madison and the City of Baraboo endeavored to secure the adoption of a bill in the Legislature to turn the lands surrounding Devils Lake into a state park. The bill did not make much headway in the Legislature. In order to interest the Legislature in the project the members were invited to visit Devils Lake and personally examine its fitness for a park. On a certain day the entire Legislature visited the proposed park lands and were there entertained with speeches and refreshments. Among those present were Hon. Thos. Reynolds, member of the Legislature from Door County, and Isaac Stephenson, who had just been elected to the national Senate to succeed Hon. John C. Spooner who had resigned the office. These two occupied the same seat on the trip back to Madison.

Being from Door County, Mr. Reynolds was not vastly impressed with the beauty of Devils Lake. Turning to Senator Stephenson, he said: "Up in Door County we have at least three sites which are far more picturesque and desirable for state parks than Devils Lake. These people of Madison want everything. They have the capital, the State University, the Agricultural Experiment Station; now they also want a state park. Why can be not locate such a park in Door County?" The subject was further discussed and finally Mr. Rey-



WINTER IS COMING  
View from Peninsula State Park



nolds asked Senator Stephenson if he would aid the project financially if a park was established in Door County. This the senator agreed to do.

A day or two afterward Mr. Reynolds presented a bill in the Legislature for an appropriation of \$75,000 to purchase lands for a state park in Door County. The members of the Legislature were at first inclined to laugh at the idea of locating a state park in such an out-of-the-way place as Door County. But when Mr. Reynolds on the floor stated that he was authorized to promise a liberal donation from a man of wealth, they became seriously interested. A committee interviewed Senator Stephenson to learn how much he would give, but were referred by him to Mr. Reynolds. Mr. Reynolds being given the liberty of naming the amount said Senator Stephenson would give \$25,000.

In due course of time Mr. Reynolds' bill became a law and the park board was authorized to expend \$75,000 in the purchase of lands for the park. In the meantime several large delegations of prominent citizens had visited Door County in company with the park board for the purpose of selecting the most desirable sites. The three sites that Mr. Reynolds had in mind were, first, the Clark's Lake region; second, the Kangaroo Lake vicinity; and, third, the tract at present included in the park. While Mr. Reynolds for obvious reasons favored the tract adjacent to Clarks Lake all the visitors including the park board and Mr. John Nolen, a prominent landscape architect and authority on state parks from Boston whose services had been retained for expert advice, were unanimous that the tract of land lying between the villages of Fish Creek and Ephraim and the bay shore was the best suited for a state park of any in the state.

It is needless to emphasize that no park would have been established in Door County without Senator Stephenson's donation to dignify the project. The senator made this donation freely and without any strings tied to it. He was prompted to do so by the fact that Door County in all his political battles had been his best support. The suggestion that his name be fixed to the park was not made by him.

This suggestion came from Mr. Thomas Brittingham, chairman of the park board. He came to the house of Mr. Reynolds and asked him to sign a telegram to Mr. Stephenson promising that the park would be named Stephenson State Park provided the senator would give \$50,000. Mr. Reynolds curtly refused to have anything to do

with such a mercenary manner of showing honor. Some time later the park board officially designated the park as Stephenson Park.

At this time there was developing a bitter feud between the supporters of Senator La Follette and Senator Stephenson. In a later session of the Legislature the La Follette faction saw in the name of the Door County Park an excellent opportunity of humiliating the aged senator. A bill was introduced changing the name of the park from Stephenson State Park to Peninsula State Park and instructing the state treasurer to return to Mr. Stephenson his donation of \$25,000. As the supporters of La Follette were in the majority in the Legislature the bill was passed and the money was returned. Naturally Senator Stephenson was profoundly pained at such an indignity.

In the meantime the work of purchasing the lands in the state park had been pushed vigorously. This work was under the personal supervision of Mr. Brittingham and was woefully bungled. Mr. Brittingham was an able business man of lofty and disinterested ideals but was unfortunately burdened with a strangely tactless presence and haughty temperament. Almost everyone whom he had dealings with in Door County was disgusted with his insufferable snobbishness. Due to his domineering personality the work of purchasing the park lands became a gloomy affair which will long rankle in the memories of all concerned.

There were in the park at the time of purchase about thirty-five resident families. With the exception of two or three these families were evicted out of their homes with almost as little ceremony or sympathy as were the unfortunate peasants of Grand Pre. They were bullied and browbeaten with the great name of the State of Wisconsin. They were threatened with having their farms confiscated for the small amount at which they were assessed. Their options, accepted at one figure, were set aside and they were compelled to accept another far less. As a consequence Mr. Brittingham and his agents left a trail behind them of weeping and lamentations by the women and dark curses by the men.

All this was quite unnecessary. Mr. Brittingham could have saved himself and the park much odium by sending a capable and courteous real estate man in to handle this job. It would have cost no more and would have created no enmities. While many of these unfortunate people should and would have received a higher compensation many of the bigger properties could have been purchased for less. Several resolute men who were willing to sell at a moderate



EAGLE CLIFF, EPHRAIM, SHOWING INDIAN HEAD





figure became so incensed at Mr. Brittingham's ruthless manner that they made up their minds that he should pay the maximum price before they were through with him. And he did.

The park embraces almost 3,800 acres of which about 300 acres have not yet been purchased. The total cost of the lands that have been purchased amounts to \$96,182.41. There has been expended for improvements \$21,229.48 up to September 1, 1917. These improvements, with the exception of the boundary road between Fish Creek and Ephraim, built at a cost of about \$10,000, are negligible.

The establishment of this park has so far been a poor business investment for Door County and particularly for the Town of Gibraltar. This vast tract which now pays no taxes would with its eight miles of the best water front in the county yield several thousand dollars annually in taxes if open for settlement. It also contains very choice farming and fruit lands which could support a large population. Well tilled fields and pleasant homes might be just as charming details of the equipment of this romantic region as are the present brush heaps and noxious weeds of which there is an abundance. However, in time Nature's all conquering hand will no doubt overcome these blemishes and with the protection of the State Peninsula Park may in the future become an object of pilgrimage to distant nature worshipers.

## CHAPTER XXV

### DOOR COUNTY LIGHTHOUSES

Door County has a shore line of 200 miles, not counting the innumerable bays and inlets which indent its shores. This shore line is faced with reefs and headlands and along its front are scores of hidden shoals and many dangerous passages. For many years quite as much of Door County's history was enacted on the water as on land. The many hundred fishermen daily watched the vagaries of the sea and the sea captains, traveling in these waters with their cargoes of forest products, learned to respect the sudden gales on Green Bay, the treacherous squalls in the Door and the big storms of Lake Michigan. The passage through the Door was particularly dreaded. To lose a deckload in making the passage was so ordinary an event as not to be worthy of mention. I have before me the diary of the lighthouse keeper of Pilot Island, kept from 1872 to 1889. It appears from the entries in this journal that their daily diet consisted of winds and roaring seas with a shipwreck at least twice a week as a piece de resistance. It seemed the regular thing in those days of many sails to ground on a shoal, throw off the deckload and then work loose. Frequently the keeper or one of his assistants leaves the station to get the mail from Washington Harbor and is unable to return for three weeks. Owing to the extremely exposed position of this little rock in the sea it is practically inaccessible in any storm. In the fall of 1872 he reports eight large vessels stranded or shipwrecked in the Door in one week. The preceding year, 1871, almost one hundred vessels were lost or seriously damaged in passing through the Door.

The greatest storm of present memory occurred October 16, 1880. It started to blow from the southeast on the evening of October 15th and continued for three days. The waves ran so high that at the Cana Island Lighthouse, then kept by William A. Sanderson, the sea frequently broke over the house. The lantern at a height of eighty-eight feet was at times completely covered with spray from the huge waves.

This storm did immense damage to shipping. At the Door twelve

vessels were driven on the rocky beaches of Plum Island and Detroit Island and were seriously damaged, many of them being a total loss. At Baileys Harbor seven large vessels were stranded, two being a total loss. In North Bay a large fleet had sought refuge from the storm. The vessels were mostly of the larger class and were either bound for Buffalo with grain or were on their way from that port to Chicago with coal and other supplies. About fifty of these vessels crowded into the little harbor during the storm. Some of them made the harbor safely and anchored. As the storm continued to increase in violence many of these dragged their anchors and were driven ashore. Here the waves washed over them and it was necessary to jettison the cargoes to keep the decks from bursting. As more and more vessels came in there were a number of collisions and several large vessels were total wrecks and were abandoned. The crew from one of these vessels was rescued in such a daring manner by one of the fishermen on shore that mention must here be made of it.

At 5 o'clock in the afternoon a large schooner named *Two Friends* attempted to enter the bay. A part of her canvas having blown away she could not be kept on her course but drifted on the outer point where she struck the limestone ledge in twelve feet of water, there being twenty-four feet of water on her seaward side. The first sea that swept over her after she grounded tore her yawlboat from its davits and carried it away. The crew attached lines to fenders and tried to send them to the shore but the current was so strong past the point that the plan failed. The tremendous sea soon broke up the deck and sent the main and mizzen masts overboard, whereupon the crew of seven men took refuge in the forward rigging which still held firm. Their cries for help were plainly heard on shore but the sea was running so high that none of the men assembled on the shore dared to launch a boat in the face of such immense breakers. There was one man, however, upon whom the appeals for assistance made so strong an impression that he determined to risk his life in an attempt to rescue the doomed crew. This was James Larson. He obtained a light skiff from William Marshall and a line long enough to reach to the vessel which was about six hundred feet from the shore. By the time his preparations were made it was nearly 11 o'clock, but the moon was giving sufficient light to direct his course. The weather had grown very cold and it was evident that if the rescue was delayed until morning it would be too late. With the assistance of two men the boat was launched through the breakers whereupon Mr. Larson with intense

exertions was able to row out to the vessel. When he came there he found all the sufferers were so chilled that none dared to trust themselves to the line and must be taken ashore in the boat if at all. The skiff was so small that only one man could be taken at a time and to avoid capsizing the passenger had to lie flat on the bottom. During this arduous rescue of the shipwrecked sailors the boat was filled with water five times and once was swamped in leaving the beach but Larson bravely continued his humane task regardless of personal danger and fatigue until the last man, the captain, was safely landed.

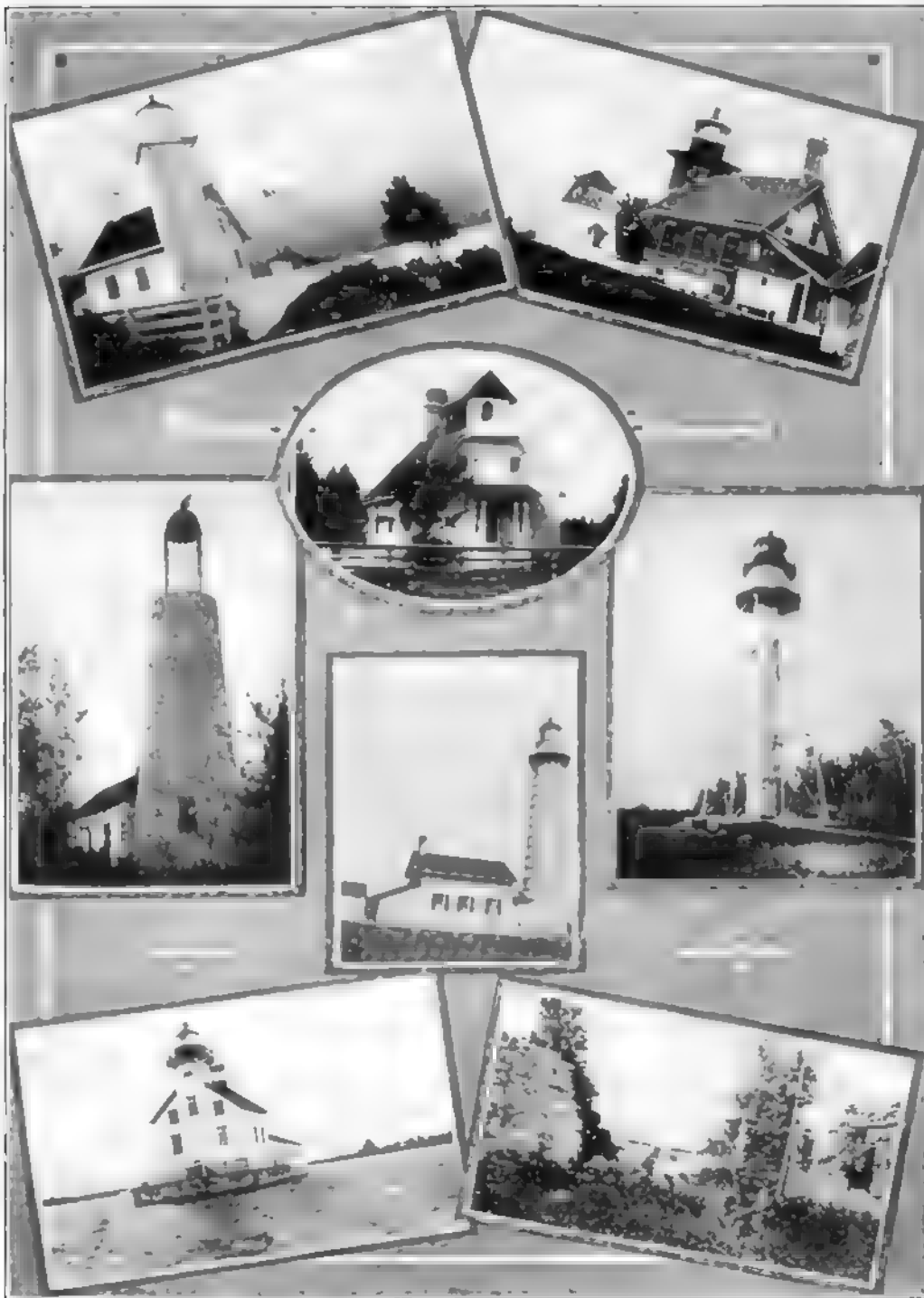
In recognition of this heroic deed Mr. Larson in 1886 received a gold medal from the Government inscribed "To James Larson, for heroic daring in rescuing seven men from the bark, *Two Friends*, October 16, 1880." The medal is of solid gold, about two inches in diameter and nearly twice the thickness of a twenty-dollar gold piece.<sup>1</sup>

In order to minimize the dangers in passing along the dangerous shore of Door County the U. S. Government has from time to time erected lighthouses at various points. There are now seventeen of these beacons besides several bell and gas buoys to guide the mariner to safety.

The first to be erected was the "Pottawatomie Light" which was erected on the northwesterly point of Rock Island in 1836 and taken in use in spring of 1837. It is the first lighthouse to be erected west of the great lakes. It is also the highest lighthouse on all the inland lakes, its lantern being 137 feet above the sea level. Its light can be seen for twenty miles. The light is suspended in a square tower on a gray stone dwelling where resides the keeper. This house is the oldest in the county. The first keeper was David E. Corbin, a former sergeant in the War of 1812.

The next lighthouse to be erected was the Pilot Island light, known as the *Porte des Morts Station*. This lighthouse was erected in 1850 and is a very important station, having three keepers. It is frequently enveloped in fogs which often settle here. At such times its ten-inch steam whistle roars out its powerful warning every thirty seconds. Pilot Island is a mere rock in the sea and is a dreary place in which to stay. Victor E. Rohn, a lieutenant in the Civil war, who was chief lighthouse keeper from August, 1872, to November, 1876, makes the following observation under date of July 4, 1874:

<sup>1</sup> James Larson was born in Denmark in 1855. He was a fisherman at North Bay at the time of his rescue of the crew of the *Two Friends*. He later moved to Marinette where he became a shipbuilder and lake captain. He has represented Marinette County in the State Legislature.



Eagle Bluff Lighthouse      Sherwood Point Lighthouse  
 Baileys Harbor Range      Plum Island Tower  
 Baileys Harbor Lighthouse      Cuna Island Lighthouse  
 Dunlap's Reef Lighthouse      Ruins of old Lighthouse on Plum Island

LIGHTHOUSES OF DOOR COUNTY



"Independence day came in fine after a heavy southeast gale. This island affords about as much independence and liberty as Libby Prison, with the difference of guards in favor of this place, and chance for outside communication in favor of the other."

Depressed by the gloom and loneliness of the island, John Boice, first assistant keeper, June 20, 1880, committed suicide by cutting his throat.

The following description of a visit to Pilot Island gives a pleasanter picture of life there. It was written by Ben Fagg and was printed in the *Advocate* some time in 1890.

"Pilot Island is a little island of  $3\frac{1}{4}$  acres of rocks and boulders on which there is an imported croquet ground, a few ornamental trees, a strawberry patch, two fog sirens, a lighthouse, a frame barn, a boathouse and some blue bell shaped flowers and golden rods that grow out of the niches in the rock. It lies about two miles east of Plum Island, which is so called because it is plumb in the center of Deaths Door.

"This is truly an isolated spot but I have spent five days on Pilot Island and they are among the happiest days of my eventuality. At sunrise every morning the first assistant, Chas. E. Young, would wake us up with an invitation to go in bathing. Then the keeper and second assistant and myself would leave our cosy beds, run down with him to the landing and plunge into the almost ice cold water. We would swim to the leeward of the island where the breakers meet as they come from both sides. Every few moments they would crash together and hoist us into the air in the midst of a cloud of foam and spray.

"On moonlight nights it is like being in a dream of ideality to walk alone over the moss covered rocks and listen to the swish of the breakers that break over the breakwater at the boat landing, hear them roaring on all sides of the little island and to see huge vessels under full sails crossing the moon-glade on their way through the Door. One seems to be completely separated from all that is worldly and bad. There is no field for gossip out here. The land is not suitable for general farming purposes, but it is a splendid place to raise an ample crop of good, pure thoughts.

"One of the fog sirens at this station is an exact duplicate of the one that was on exhibition at the World's Fair held in Paris. Its song can be heard at a distance of forty miles, and when it sings all the lights in the signal house must be hung by strings to prevent them from going out. The sound is so intense that no chickens can



be hatched on the island, as the vibration kills them in the egg, and it causes milk to curdle in a few minutes. Visitors at the lighthouse on foggy nights sit up in bed when the siren begins its lay and look around for their resurrection robes."

The Pilot Island Lighthouse is famous for having witnessed more shipwrecks than any other lighthouse on the Great Lakes. If their number could be told it would be a legion. On this little crag and its nearby rocks and shoals scores of proud vessels have been irresistibly driven to be quickly pounded to pieces by the thundering seas. Many times the crew of the lighthouse have been called upon at the risk of their lives to save the imperiled crews. A notable example of this was the heroic rescue of the crew of the A. P. Nichols on November 9, 1892, by the keeper of the light, Martin Knudson.

The Nichols was bound from Chicago to Escanaba without cargo and was caught in a big storm. Her big anchor was no match for the gale and the schooner drifted on the rocks of Pilot Island. When she struck the waves washed clean over her.

Martin Knudson, the keeper of the light, was familiar with every rock around his storm-beaten island, and knowing the location of a shoal leading to the stranded vessel he waded out, although it was exceedingly risky to wade out over the slippery stones in the face of the big waves that came crashing in. Moreover it was 8 o'clock at night and intensely dark. However, he succeeded in almost reaching the vessel. Standing in water up to his shoulders, he finally made himself heard above the terrific roar of the sea and ordered the captain and his men to jump, one by one, and he would catch them. It seemed like suicide to jump into that foaming caldron, but in order to see if rescue was possible Captain Clow jumped first. He went in far over his head but Knudson caught him before he was sucked away by the undertow. Captain Clow remained on the shoal while Knudson rescued the next one in the same way. In this manner the entire crew of six were rescued, including a female cook and the captain's aged father, old Captain David Clow, who had suffered shipwreck about on the same spot twenty years before.<sup>1</sup> When the last one had left the vessel the lighthouse man piloted them all ashore along the narrow and crowded ridge of the shoal.

Speaking of this rescue Captain Clow said later: "It is a wonder to me how Martin Knudson found his way along that ledge of rocks in the darkness of the night. He is about the bravest man I have ever seen. How he managed to keep his bearings after rescuing the crew.

<sup>1</sup> This is the Captain David Clow of Chambers Island fame.

has been a wonder to me ever since. A single misstep and we would all have fallen off the rocks into deep water and undoubtedly been drowned."

The schooner J. C. Gilmore had stranded on the island a week before and her crew was still at the lighthouse. The addition of the crew of the Nichols made sixteen persons to feed, and for a while it looked to the men as if they had escaped drowning only to die by starvation. For a week the storms prevented any one from leaving the island. However, after a little a lull in the storm enabled the lighthouse crew to obtain some provisions from the Nichols which soon afterward went to pieces.

The Baileys Harbor Lighthouse was erected in 1852 through the activity of Alanson Sweet, a Milwaukee vessel owner who had platted a village at Baileys Harbor and caused it to be selected as the county seat. A light was therefore needed to guide the commerce which he hoped would soon flow in and out of the new metropolis. It originally was placed on the east side of the harbor near the point. This was abandoned in 1870 when two range lights were built at the head of the harbor. The old white tower of the former light, built in 1852, is still standing.

The Eagle Bluff Lighthouse, three miles north of Fish Creek, was built in 1868. The first keeper was Henry Stanley, who served until 1883. He was succeeded by William Duclon who is still at the post, having served about thirty-five years. This lighthouse was erected to mark the east passage of Green Bay.

The Chambers Island Lighthouse was built in 1868. The record is incomplete. Lewis Williams, Peder Knudson and Charles E. Young were the respective keepers up to 1895. Soren Christianson was keeper from 1895 to 1900, Joseph Napeizinski from 1900 to 1906 and Jens J. Rollefson since that time. This lighthouse was erected to mark the west passage of Green Bay.

The Cana Island Lighthouse, four miles north of Baileys Harbor, was built in 1869 on a stony island of nine acres. A driveway to the mainland has now been built. The tower is eighty-eight feet high and the light can be seen eighteen miles. It is in a very exposed position. The keepers of this station have been the following:

William Jackson.....	1870-1871
Julius Warren .....	1872-1875
William A. Sanderson .....	1875-1891
Jesse T. Brown .....	1891-1913
Conrad A. Strahn .....	1913—

On Dunlap reef in front of the City of Sturgeon Bay two range lights, 707 feet apart, were built in 1881. This is quite a desirable station as lighthouses go and there have therefore been but few keepers. These are:

Henry Graham .....	1881-1885
Joseph Harris, Jr. ....	1885-1890
C. W. Sanderson .....	1890—

The Sherwood Point Lighthouse at the mouth of Sturgeon Bay was built in 1883. The light has an elevation of sixty-one feet. In foggy weather a bell struck by machinery operates every twelve seconds.

The Plum Island Lighthouse Station in the middle of the Door was built in 1896. There is a tradition of a much earlier lighthouse on Plum Island but no information has been found about this. The present station is quite a pretentious one, consisting of a two-story double dwelling house in buff brick with a white, square, pyramidal, iron, skeleton tower close by. It also has a ten-inch steam whistle. The light can be seen thirteen miles. The keepers of this station have been Martin Knudson, Hans J. Hanson, Charles E. Young, Joseph Boshka and Charles Boshka. There are two assistants.

At the Lake Michigan end of the Sturgeon Bay Canal is a lighthouse, consisting of a white cylindrical tower 107 feet high. This was built in 1899. At the outer end of the north pier is another built in 1882. There are also four range lights, two in each end of the canal. Three of these were built in 1896, the fourth in 1898.

Door County has also three life-saving stations: one at the canal, one at Baileys Harbor and one on Plum Island.

Among the many shoals that lie in the waters of Door County there are particularly two that are so dangerous that they have been marked by gas buoys. One is Fisherman Shoal lying about nine miles northeast of Pilot Island. This buoy is anchored in thirty-six feet of water. The other is Whaleback Shoal lying about six miles west of Washington Island. This buoy is anchored in eighteen feet of water. Both of these buoys were placed in their positions in 1897.

Whaleback Shoal is about two miles long and lies nearly in the direct line of travel up and down Green Bay. The highest part is marked on the Government maps as covered by three feet of water. This standard, however, was taken in the unusually high water of 1838, and in ordinary seasons it lies much nearer the surface. The shoal extends in a straight line from northwest to southeast and is very



CHAMBERS ISLAND LIGHTHOUSE



narrow. On the southwest side the water is deep right up to the shoal while on the opposite side it shelves gradually off into deep water.

On quiet days the water flows placidly over this submerged ridge of limestone and the surface gives no indication of the danger that is lurking there. In stormy weather, however, particularly when the wind is from the northeast, the sea froths and roars over it in a terrific manner. In the early days, before the bay was properly charted and danger spots marked, this submerged reef was the cause of many a marine disaster.

To the credit of Whaleback Shoal it must be told that once it was the means of saving lives instead of destroying them. Two Norwegian fishermen from Ephraim by the names of Anton Olson and Anton Amundson were fishing on the ice near Chambers Island early in the spring of 1890. Suddenly they found that the ice had broken up and was carrying them slowly but irresistibly toward Lake Michigan. The floe on which they were marooned was many miles in extent and for a time they had hopes of making connections with Ellison Bay point or Door Bluff. In this they were disappointed, as the floe kept a course several miles distant from land. As the floe was breaking up they knew that sure death awaited them if they were carried out into Lake Michigan. After spending a night and day of fading hopes and weariness on the ice floe they toward the close of the second day found themselves close to Whaleback Shoal. Covered with huge cakes of ice which had stranded there it now lay like a huge, sinister serpent of ice. It had one virtue, however: it was not moving toward sure death. With their ice picks they broke off a small cake of ice and by means of this ferry reached the shoal. Here they found the ice heaped up in the greatest confusion, making strange caves and crevices. They crowded into one of these though with little hope. They were too far from land to be seen and they knew that no vessel would venture out for many days. Moreover, the shoal was such a dangerous place that mariners gave it a wide berth.

For two days and nights they sat in their cages of ice, exposed to the freezing cold of early April nights without food. Then they noticed that the wind which had shifted was bringing the ice back. For hours they stared anxiously until they saw quite a large cake of ice come near the shoal. Hastily they launched another cake of ice, paddled across the intervening space of water and embarked. Not many hours afterward they were safely back on land with their ice sleds. They had been four days and three nights among the icebergs.

## CHAPTER XXVI

### A FORGOTTEN COMMUNITY: A RECORD OF ROCK ISLAND, THE THRESHOLD OF WISCONSIN

Off the extreme northeastern corner of Wisconsin lies a little island about a mile square. It is situated in the middle of the mouth of Green Bay, storm-lashed by all the heaving seas of Lake Michigan. On the north and west its castellated limestone ramparts rise in perpendicular grandeur from the lake to the height of a hundred feet and more. On the south and east, however, its shores slope gently down until their sands blend with the lapping waves of the inland sea. From shore to shore the interior is now covered with a majestic mantle of forest green, shrouding a solitude which for fifty years has been unbroken by human habitation. Only upon the northern cliff sits a watchful lighthouse keeper, turning his gleaming light throughout the night upon the dark waters to warn away the wind-swept mariner from the dangerous coast he is guarding.

Seventy years ago this isolated little island, now ruled over only by the "murmuring pines and hemlocks," was the home of an energetic community of about a hundred people. Their snug homes lined the eastern shore and their sailboats ventured far out to sea for fish and fun. Up on the hillside a number of early Wisconsin pioneers are laid away to rest, and in a log schoolhouse whose very site is forgotten many worthy citizens of this state and Michigan have learned their A B C's.

Rock Island, the subject of our sketch, was well known to the early French explorers under the names of Potawatomi Island and Louse Island.<sup>1</sup> It is without doubt the first place in Wisconsin visited by white men. When Jean Nicolet in 1634 passed through the Straits of Mackinac, the customary Indian route was along the shore of the northern peninsula of Michigan until the present Point Detour was reached. There the natives crossed the mouth of Green

<sup>1</sup> The name Potawatomi Island was applied to the entire group including the present Washington Island. The term "Louse" is a corruption of the original French name; the French abbreviated the word Potawatomi (often spelled by them Poutonatami) to Les Poux, by which they intended the Indian tribe, not the insect.

Bay touching on the shores of Rock Island and followed the west shore of the Door County peninsula to the Winnebago capital at Red Banks. Later, travelers from the interior ordinarily followed the west shore of the peninsula until they came to Rock Island, then the "Grand Traverse" was made across Lake Michigan to the southern peninsula. By either route Rock Island was the threshold of Wisconsin.

The first permanent American settlers on Rock Island were John A. Boone, Neil McMillan, James McNeil, George Lovejoy, David E. Corbin, Jack Arnold, and Louis Lebue. Most of these were fishermen and trappers who came from the Island of St. Helena in the Straits of Mackinac in 1835 or 1836. As they were the first settlers in the northeastern part of the state outside of the settlement at Green Bay, a brief mention of their personalities will be desirable.

John A. Boone was a quiet, apt-spoken man who, without thrusting himself forward, was always looked upon as the leader of the community that grew up on the island. He had evidently spent his entire life on the frontier, as he spoke the Chippewa dialect like a native and fully understood the Indian character. These accomplishments later served him well when he was the means of averting a very threatening Indian war. He was a married man when he settled on the island, and lived there until his death in 1866, when he was fifty-two years old. A little white-painted cedar cross still marks his grave on the island.

Neil McMillan was Boone's partner, but moved to Little Harbor, where he for a time had a fishing station.

George Lovejoy had been a sergeant in the United States army, having seen five years' service at the frontier post of Fort Howard, during which he had taken part in expeditions of various kinds to the Indians. He was a hunter of fame in many parts of Northeastern Wisconsin and an eccentric bachelor of remarkable capacity for almost anything he undertook. He could beat an Indian on a trail, and he astonished the sailors by building on Lake Michigan one of the best schooners with which he traded along the shore. His commercial qualities were crude, however, and barren of success. He was an expert with the violin and a master ventriloquist. Sometimes he would go out on the ice when an Indian was fishing and make the trout talk back to its captor in the most approved Chippewa dialect, to the poor Indian's terrorized amazement. This, with his reckless bravery and easy skill in every undertaking, made the



Indians look upon Lovejoy as a veritable demon, and they were always most anxious to propitiate his favor by gifts of all kinds. In one direction, however, Lovejoy was anything but brave. That was in his attitude toward the fair sex. When suddenly confronted by a woman he was struck dumb with embarrassment and often fled precipitately. This failing of his was the cause of many broad jokes played on him by the mischievous young folks of the little community.

To James McNeil belongs the honor of being the first taxpayer in Door County. He owned the entire south shore of Rock Island. He was an old bachelor of a very penurious disposition, with a failing for whiskey. He was very close-mouthed about his own affairs except when the jug arrived from Chicago. Under its stimulus he would become very confidential and would prate with tipsy garrulity of his "yellow boys," which, he confided, would support him in comfort when he should retire. By "yellow boys" he referred to his store of gold coin, which, unfortunately, became his undoing instead of his support. One morning the poor old man was found beside his chicken coop wounded and unconscious. When he came to, he shouted, "Boone! Boone!" in agonized appeal. Boone, who was justice of the peace, was quickly summoned, but by the time he appeared McNeil had passed away, taking the secret of his murder with him. No positive clue to the murderer was ever obtained, but it was believed that a strange craft that had been seen in the vicinity contained the criminals. For some time there was much hunting in the potato patch and among the crags for the old man's treasure but nothing was found.

Both David E. Corbin and Jack Arnold were old soldiers who had been sergeants in the War of 1812. Corbin was the first lighthouse keeper in Wisconsin, being in charge of the Rock Island Lighthouse (the first in Wisconsin) from its construction in 1836<sup>2</sup> until his death in 1852. Arnold stayed with Corbin in the lighthouse because they were such inseparable cronies. They rarely ever conversed but were apparently able to read each other's thoughts. When finally Arnold sickened and died in 1848 Corbin watched by his bedside with ceaseless vigilance, caring for him with the greatest tenderness.

Of all these men Louis Lebue is the only one from this section whose name is mentioned in the territorial census of 1836.<sup>3</sup> In 1843

<sup>2</sup> See the reference in Kemper's "Journal" in 1834 to choosing a site for this lighthouse. Wis. Hist. Colls., XIV, 442.

<sup>3</sup> Id., XIII, 253.

he had the misfortune to lose his wife, who was buried on the island. This unsettled him, and he departed for Chicago, the rising metropolis of the West. On Calumet River, near Chicago, he made the acquaintance of some men by the names of Miner and Luther. Henry D. Miner was the son of a clergyman who, as early as 1828, had settled at Kaukauna as a missionary among the Indians. The following year he died of fever at this place.<sup>4</sup> His boy, Henry, who was then eight years old, returned to his relatives in New York.<sup>5</sup> In 1842, however, he returned to the West accompanied by his brother, T. T. Miner, and Job Seth, and Brazil Luther. In the spring of 1844 Lebue met these men and told them of the easy living that could be made on Rock Island by fishing. He showed them how to repair and knit twine, and initiated them into the mysteries of the piscatorial art. As a result he sold them his outfit, whereupon in June, 1844, they moved up to Rock Island to become the forerunners of a steady advance of settlers to this distant region. Job Luther had a vessel and at intervals he freighted fish down the lake and fishermen up, until after three or four years there were upwards of fifty men, many of them having families, living on Rock Island. Nearly all of these people came from Lemont, near Chicago, and were known as the Illinois Colony. Among them was an old man by the name of Kennison, who lived to be the last survivor of the Boston Tea Party.<sup>6</sup> There were also Chauncey Haskell, and Robert, Sam, and Oliver Perry Graham, who came from Ohio. The last mentioned, born in Ohio in 1816, was an unusually fine looking man of commanding presence. Being the most capable appearing of all the whites, the Indians thought he must be their chief. He was consequently adopted into both the Chippewa and the Menominee tribes of Indians and made a chief in both. He stayed most of the time on St. Martin's Island and from there removed in the latter '40s to Sturgeon Bay, where he became the first settler.

Outside of Rock Island about five miles southeast of it was a little skerry or island known as "Little Gull." It was made up of small stones and was only about a hundred feet long by fifty wide.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Jesse Miner was born in 1781. He became a missionary to the Stockbridge Indians in New York in 1825; in July, 1827, he visited Wisconsin on behalf of his neophytes, and removed with them and began a mission at Kaukauna in June, 1828. The following March 22, 1829, he died and is buried in the cemetery at Kaukauna. See his letters and the account of his death in *id.*, XV, 39-43, 45-48.

<sup>5</sup> The letter, cited in *ibid.*, 46, says Henry was three at the time of his father's death. If, however, he returned west in 1842, he must in all probability have been eight in 1829.

<sup>6</sup> For a sketch of David Kennison's remarkable career, see the next chapter. See also Quaipe, Chicago and the Old Northwest, 255-57.

In the summer of 1846 Robert Graham built a small house on it in order to be nearer his nets which were set out in the lake several miles outside of Rock Island. In this small house Mrs. Graham stayed all summer cooking for her husband. On stormy days the big waves rolled up and came thundering down upon the little shoal as if they would sweep the shoal and its inhabitants away. However, they stayed there all that summer and fall. The next season, however, the waves had gotten the better of the little island. It was now too small to squat on. It continued to wear away and soon was known as "the outside shoal." After some years the water over the shoal was of sufficient depth to hide the appearance and a large steamer suffered a heavy loss by grounding on the bar. Now the once inhabited island is covered by many fathoms of water and its existence is almost forgotten.

Nearly all of these people lived along the sandy east shore of Rock Island where they constituted the first community in the county. And a very contented community it was. The fish were plentiful and very large, often only ten to fifteen being required to fill a half-barrel. In the woods was an abundance of game and in the little garden patches of the settlers potatoes and other vegetables grew luxuriantly. Apples and berries in abundance grew wild in the woods, and there was no lack of firewood with which to keep warm in wintertime. It was a free and easy life to lead, somewhat indolent and uncouth, without taxes or sociological troubles of any kind. Their chief handicap was their distance from any postoffice through which to learn the news of the outside world. The most accessible one was Chicago, 300 miles away. Mail intended for the settlement was usually directed as follows: "H. D. Miner, Rock Island, care of Williams, Chicago, Illinois." On his occasional visits to the metropolis, Job Luther would get the little bundle of Rock Island letters and newspapers, often many months old. On such visits he would also lay in ample stores of tea and tobacco, boots and biscuits, soap, sugar and soda, coffee and calico, and all the other staples which T. T. Miner carried for sale in his little store on the island. Besides these things he was also entrusted with a multitude of private requisitions, such as a mouth organ or a fowling piece for a young hopeful, or a bonnet or a brocade for one of the fairer sex. Such fineries were needed to do honor to the occasional weddings, funerals and other events of importance. Weddings were of rare occurrence and while of transcendent interest were usually not attended with any ceremonial, being in the absence of church and

organized state only "common law marriages." Now and then a contracting couple was found who felt the need of the blessing of the church upon their union. This, however, was difficult of attainment. On one such occasion H. D. Miner was drafted into service to tie the knot. The cause of his selection was that a certain faint glow of sacerdotal dignity was attributed to him by reason of the fact that his father had died as a missionary to the Indians. Miner complied, and with all the unction he was capable of, joined together Henry Gardner and Elizabeth Roe, the first marriage ceremony to be performed in Door County. One of Miner's companions, who had been disgracefully beaten at poker, at which Miner was a novice, felt that this was usurping too much authority; he accordingly went about fomenting trouble and a lawsuit was threatened, which afforded food for gossip for a long time.

Another wedding is recalled by the old pioneers with much relish. It was a big affair in which two Norwegian couples were joined in wedlock, and fishermen from many shores had gathered to celebrate the double feast of love and liquor. As usual, there was no clergyman to officiate, but a humble visiting evangelist was drafted into service. He was in charge of a small "gospel ship" by the name of Glad Tidings, which periodically visited the islands. He had no license to perform a marriage ceremony, but as he was anxious to please his prospective converts he consented to officiate. It was a new undertaking for him, and being nervous and not knowing the contracting parties, he made the unfortunate blunder of marrying the two men to each other and then the two women. The two Norwegian bridegrooms on their part had but little knowledge of the English language and only a very dim notion of the procedure at an American wedding. They, however, had a vivid impression that it was their part to answer "yes" when spoken to. When, therefore, Peter Hanson was asked if he would take John Swenson for his wife and vice versa, an energetic "yes" was the response to the uproarious acclaim of the assembled guests. It was not until the young exhorter was similarly joining together the two brides, who, by the way, were sisters to begin with, that the officiating witnesses rallied their wits and interposed, whereupon a fresh start was made.

Dependent on the lake as these people were and exposed to all its squalls, hairbreadth escapes on the water were quite frequent. While thrilling adventures were common, the fishermen were so used to Neptune's whims that comparatively few fatalities occurred. Now and then, however, one would be caught unawares and go down

to his watery grave. A notable instance of this was the drowning of the Curtis family.

Newman Curtis joined the Illinois Colony in the later '40s. In the summer of 1853, he went with his family, consisting of his wife, daughter, and newborn baby, to St. Martin's Island to fish. After a successful season he prepared to return in the fall to his permanent home on Washington Island. He was accompanied by his nephew, W. W. Shipman, and Volney I. Garrett, two young boys.

As Mr. Curtis had a quantity of household goods and freight he rented an old heavy-built schooner, which in early days had out-riden many a storm but was now considered too unwieldy to be safe. But as it was but eight miles between the two islands the little party started off without fear. All went well until the vessel was drawing quite near to Washington Island where its occupants could see their little white cottage among the trees on shore. By this time the fair wind that had favored them had gained in force until a storm was blowing and the old schooner began to creak and roll heavily. In doing this she took in a great deal of water as the top seams were quite open. The pump was kept going but in spite of this the vessel settled fast and soon was so water-logged as to be quite unmanageable. When just outside of Indian Point, on which the seas were rolling terrifically, those on board realized that in all probability the schooner would sink before she would be dashed on the rocks, not a hopeful alternative. Curtis and Garrett, therefore, prepared to lower the yawl while Shipman went down to fetch the baby who was still sleeping in an upper bunk oblivious to its peril.

At this juncture a heavy sea dashed over the vessel from stem to stern, tearing away the frail grip of the Curtis girl on the cabin to which she was clinging, and washing her overboard. This wave was followed by another which tore loose the yawl, throwing it into the sea endwise and pinning Curtis underneath it. When he finally came to the surface he was so overcome by his exertions and bruised by the blows he had received that he was unable to swim the few feet that separated him from the yawl, which floated away filled with water. Upon seeing sudden death thus overtake her daughter and husband, Mrs. Curtis for a moment forgot her own peril and stretched out her arms to them screaming in anguish. Instantly she, too, was washed overboard.

By this time Shipman, drenched with water, had emerged from the cabin with the baby in his arms. He made for the remaining hatch, reaching it simultaneously with Garrett, who also seized it.

"Who takes the hatch takes the baby," shouted Shipman, thrusting the baby toward his companion. Garrett, not caring for this handicap, told him to "Go to hell with the hatch!" The next moment they were all thrown into the water. Clinging to the hatch, Shipman and his charge made land safely, where they were soon joined by Garrett, clinging to the submerged yawl. The next morning the battered bodies of the Curtises were found on the beach and were buried on Rock Island.

It would give the writer much satisfaction if he could record, in the fashion of novelists, that this child, rescued from the very jaws of death, grew up to become a great man in his country. Unfortunately, the stern realities of life often disregard the law of compensation, and this was not to be. The child was entrusted to the affectionate care of an aunt in Joliet, Ill., where he developed into a most promising and winsome boy. When he was nine years of age a neighboring washerwoman, who admired the little fellow, presented him with a small sailboat. The boy was delighted with this toy, and deciding it was too big to sail in a washtub, took it to the canal. There, while leaning over watching the sailboat with childish rapture, he fell in and was drowned.

Besides the Illinois Colony and other white settlers, there were about fifty wigwams of Chippewa Indians on Rock Island, living under the leadership of their renowned chief, Silver Band. The two communities got along very well together except on one occasion when open war was threatened. It happened in this way. Among the whites was a widow by the name of Oliver. She had three boys, one of whom, Andrew, was a half-grown fellow. Widow Oliver was much broken down over the loss of her husband; but was nevertheless in great demand for nursing the sick, at which she was very capable. Her boy one day took her place in the kitchen where he was peeling cold boiled potatoes. Some of the Indian urchins noticed this through the partly opened window, and soon there was a group collected, their noses pressed flat against the glass, making grimaces at the white youth and calling him "squawman." This was too much for the willing Andrew, who suddenly threw a cold potato at the leader of the band of mockers. He, however, dodged the missile which, with splinters of glass, struck an innocent little bystander full in the eye—the seven-year-old son of Chief Silver Band. The screaming sufferer, bleeding profusely, was hurried to his father's tepee, and soon the Indians were seen rushing excitedly back and forth. The white settlers, on hearing what had happened, felt that

a crisis was imminent, and sent Henry Miner to parley with the chief. He was met at the door and gruffly told to go away. Others attempted to interview the Indians, but without gaining a hearing. The whites were fast becoming terror-stricken for they knew that at any moment a signal could be sent to neighboring Indians on Washington Island, and they would have no chance against the overwhelming numbers that might be brought against them. Some of the more reckless favored taking time by the forelock and making a sudden onslaught upon Silver Band and his people. "If not," they declared, "we will surely be massacred in our beds." Others, more timid, recommended rather that Andrew Oliver be killed and brought before the enraged chief as a fitting sacrifice. In the midst of this hubbub John Boone arrived. He could talk Chippewa fluently and was highly esteemed by Silver Band. Taking the weeping Widow Oliver by the hand he made his way to Silver Band. In well-chosen words he reminded the chief of their earlier associations. He called up one picture after another of the chief's greatness in war, cunning in battle, and mighty prowess in hunting the bear and the buffalo. He told of how wisely Silver Band had conducted the affairs of his people as chief, keeping them out of trouble of all kinds, showing magnanimity to his foes, and gaining the esteem and confidence of the white people. He concluded:

"And now I am glad that so magnanimous a chief as Silver Band rules his people. Children play, children quarrel, children get hurt. It is easy to be magnanimous when another's child is hurt, but not so easy when your own child, the pride of your eye, suffers. Another chief, less noble than Silver Band, would let rage master him, and thus bring everlasting trouble upon himself, his people, and his neighbors. Not so with my brother, the great chief Silver Band, the lord of the Chippewa. He suffers, but he forgives.

"And now I bring you this woman to be your handmaiden. She is weak of body and crushed with grief that her son should unwittingly have brought this evil upon his little playmate, your son. But her hands are skilled in the mixing of potent medicinal herbs, and she can nurse your child to life."

Soothed, complimented, and exalted by this skillful discourse, the chief sat silent. Finally he rose, extended his hand to Boone, and led Widow Oliver to the couch of his suffering boy. There she remained nursing him unremittingly until he was able to go about again, blind, however, in one eye.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>7</sup> When last heard from Andrew Oliver was at the head of a manufacturing establishment in Allegan, Mich. The Indian boy, Kezias, is now the chief of the same band of Chippewa

In 1854, Rev. William B. Hamblin, a Baptist evangelist, visited Rock and Washington islands. He was an ardent idealist and often took his texts from the sublime scenery and majestic elements around him, preaching rousing sermons. Quite a revival resulted with wholesale baptisms, especially among such as were considered seasoned sinners. A church was organized with most of its membership among the people of Rock Island. John Boone was chosen deacon. This was the first church organized within the county, and it is still in existence on Washington Island.

While a private school had been maintained for many years in a desultory way, it was not until 1863 that Rock Island secured a public school. During the following winter the school was taught by Miss Roselia Rice, who later became the wife of Joseph Harris, one of Door County's prominent citizens.

By this time, however, the fortunes of Rock Island were on the decline. In the '50s and early '60s when other parts of Door County began to be occupied, the exodus from Rock Island began. The island's lack of good harbors, and the inconveniences attendant upon its isolation more than outweighed the greater profits derived from its fishing. One by one the old-timers slipped away to seek their fortunes in other parts. Some of the buildings were removed while others mouldered away. It is now long since the island's last loyal denizen bade good-by to his romantic habitation. Where once stood the village of the Illinois Colony wild roses now grow and the rabbits and chipmunks frisk undisturbed over the knoll that marks the site of the old schoolhouse. Up on the hillside lie the bones of John Boone, Silver Band, Newman Curtis, and all the other worthy men who played a man's part in their day; the moss of the forest has garbed their graves, and their aspirations and their deeds are alike forgotten.

with headquarters on the peninsula of Northern Michigan, between Big and Little Bay de Noquet, where he is also their priest and teacher.



## CHAPTER XXVII

### DAVID KENNISON

Lincoln Park, the famous beauty spot of Chicago, is in no sense a cemetery. Yet here in one of the most famous pleasure parks of America lies the body of a Door County pioneer.

This old pioneer, now honored with such a grand resting place, was David Kennison, who for some years was a member of the little community on Rock Island.

David Kennison, once a resident of Door County, is practically unknown, even by name, to all present residents of the county. Yet his life was so full of remarkable adventures and was followed by such a pompous burial that even the pages of fiction fail to show a comparison.

He was born in 1736 in one of the frontier settlements of New Hampshire. Of his youth and early manhood we know nothing with certainty. Very likely he carried a musket in the French and Indian war and had his share of fighting against the Indians that surrounded the home of his youth.

At the outbreak of the Revolutionary war we find Kennison right in the midst of things. He was a member of the Boston Tea Party, a participant in Lexington and Bunker Hill and many another battle of the Revolution, he had reached the respectable age of seventy-one when, in March, 1808, he enlisted in the army for the regular term of five years. Probably this was a re-enlistment, for Kinzie's account books show that he was at Chicago as early as May, 1804. The garrison muster-roll for May, 1812, shows that he was present for duty at that time. The supposition that he was a participant in the massacre three months later rests upon inference, for his name is nowhere expressly mentioned in connection with that event. Presumably he was one of the small number of survivors who returned from captivity concerning whom no definite record is left. In his old age Kennison told of further service in the War of 1812, but it is evident that his memory had become confused upon the subject.

"After the war Kennison settled in New York, and in the ensu-

ing years of peace met with physical injuries far more numerous and serious than in all of his years of warfare. A falling tree fractured his skull and broke his collar bone and two ribs; the discharge of a cannon at a military review broke both of his legs; and the kick of a horse on his forehead left a scar which disfigured him for life. Notwithstanding these accidents, Kennison succeeded in becoming a husband four times and the father of twenty-two children, and in living to the mature age of one hundred and fifteen."

Late in life he became separated from all his children except a younger son with whom in the latter '40s he went to Rock Island, Door County. Here at the age of about one hundred and ten he started into a new life learning to knit twine and clean fish. On the island were two other veterans of the War of 1812, David Corbin and Jack Arnold, with whom he used to swap stories of his experiences in the field. Several descendants of early settlers on Rock Island have told the author of having heard their parents speak of the remarkable old man.

About 1850 his son left Rock Island and the old man was again thrown on his own resources. He went to Chicago where his last years were spent endeavoring to subsist on a pension of \$8 per month which he received for his Revolutionary services. This not being sufficient he was finally constrained to enter a public museum. In his card to the public announcing this step he explained that the smallness of his pension obliged him to take it to provide himself with the necessary comforts of life. For the last twenty months of his life the veteran was bedridden, but his sight and hearing, which for a time had been deficient, became perfect again, and he retained his ordinary faculties to the end. His death occurred February 24, 1852.

"It was fitting that such a character should receive an imposing funeral. On the day before his death, in response to a request presented in his behalf that he be saved from the potters' field, the city council had voted that a lot and a suitable monument be provided for him in the City Cemetery. The funeral was held from the Clark Street Methodist Church, and several clergymen assisted in the services. At their conclusion a procession moved in two divisions from the church to the cemetery, to the accompaniment of cannon booming at one-minute intervals. In the procession were the mayor and the councilmen, a detachment of the United States army, the various military companies and bands of the city, companies of firemen, and others. Upon this spectacle and that of the interment, which was marked by the usual military honors, a large proportion of the popu-

lation of the city gazed. The cemetery occupied a portion of the ground now included in Lincoln Park. When the use of this for burial purposes was abandoned a number of years later, nearly all of the bodies interred in it were removed. Kennison's was one of the few left undisturbed. For many years the site of his grave had practically been forgotten, when, in 1905, with appropriate ceremonies it was marked by a massive granite monument, erected by a number of patriotic societies. Thus it has come to pass that Kennison's burial place possesses a prominence of which the humble soldier in life can hardly have dared dream. Veteran of our two wars against Great Britain, participant in the Boston Tea Party and the Fort Dearborn Massacre, he enjoys the unique distinction of a grave in Chicago's most famous park, overlooking the blue waters of Lake Michigan."<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The quotations in the above article are from M. M. Quaife's "Chicago and the Old Northwest," pp. 255-257. Doctor Quaife has drawn his account from the following sources: The Chicago Democrat, November 6 and 8, 1848, and February 25, 26, 27, 1852; the Chicago Daily News, December 19, 1903; the Fort Dearborn garrison payroll for the quarter ending December 31, 1811, and the muster-roll for the period ending May 31, 1812, both among the Herald papers in the Draper Collection; the garrison muster roll for December, 1810, printed in Wentworth, Early Chicago, 88.

## CHAPTER XXVIII

### WASHINGTON ISLAND

Far out amid the white-crested waves of Lake Michigan lies Washington Island. Its nearest point is about twenty-five miles from the mainland of Northern Michigan, while the tip end of the Door County peninsula comes up within ten miles on the south. North, east and south lie a number of islands, constituting "the islands of Green Bay" and known as a dangerous zone of navigation ever since the first sailing vessel that plowed the waters of the great lakes—the Griffin of the famous explorer La Salle—was wrecked there in the year 1679.

Washington Island is about six miles square and has a shoreline of twenty-six miles. On the north and west sides the shores are high and precipitous, particularly at the northwestern extremity, where Bowyer's Bluff towers its limestone ledge imposingly to the height of almost 200 feet from the water's edge. These cliffs are seamed with caves and fissures, and carved into fantastic figures by the storms of bygone ages, but now the clinging cedars are weaving a drapery of green for their rugged sides. The south and east sides, on the contrary, are mostly low and sandy with a shallow water front. On the north side is Washington Harbor, a bay which extends into the island about a mile and a half, surrounded by sloping timbered hills. On the south, too, is a big indentation, known as Detroit Harbor, which is made a landlocked anchorage by the long Detroit Island, which lies across its mouth. The water here is, however, too shallow except for vessels of light draft.

Around the shores of this beautiful harbor the clearings come down to the water's edge and the shore is dotted with substantial summer hotels, cottages and farm buildings. But the traveler on the big passenger boats sees none of these. He passes the island on the west, north or east and sees only frowning shores crowned with the primeval woods—apparently the guardians of Nature's undisturbed solitude.

Residents of the interior parts of the state, knowing Washington Island only from the little spot it occupies on the map, have even a smaller conception of what it contains. To them Washington Island

is only a storm-beaten rock in the sea, far removed from every human activity. They do not dream that this little island is throbbing with the multitudinous interests of one of the most progressive communities in Wisconsin. It has a population of almost a thousand people, mostly engaged in farming by the most up-to-date methods. As a potato growing center it ranks high, exporting about 40,000 bushels annually, besides a quantity of grains and fruits. Its farmhouses are of such superior construction as to compare favorably with those of most townships in the state. It has three churches and four schools and one of the best co-operative telephone systems in America. This is connected by a cable on the sea bottom with the mainland so that practically every farmer on Washington Island can talk with Chicago or Minneapolis from his own home. Although the roads are fair, the islanders are voting substantial appropriations for macadamizing them and the island will therefore shortly have one of the best paved road systems in the state. All in all, Washington Island is a place of great natural beauty, fertility, industry and progress.

Washington Island, as has been told in another chapter, was a favorite place of abode for the Indians. Nowhere else in the state are to be found so many village sites, cemeteries, mounds and cornfields as here. There is here such a wealth of Indian remains that as one archaeologist says, "there is little left to desire." The entire shoreline around Detroit Harbor shows remains of village sites. So also do the shores of Little Lake and Jackson Harbor. Even at this late date a very well defined Indian cornfield can be seen in the grove of timber adjoining the Washington Harbor School on the north. Judging by the amount of Indian remains Washington Island was the most favored region in the western country.

The first permanent settlement of white people in Door County, as has been told, was on Rock Island. About 1850 many moved away from there, particularly those who had children, as those were growing up "without knowing the difference between a cow and a horse." Such supposed necessities of civilization and a hundred others were not to be found on little Rock Island. They therefore moved over to Washington Island, where there was abundant room for other activities besides fishing.

Before this immigration to Washington Island began there were two or three attempts at settlement which must be briefly recorded.

In the spring of 1834 two young fishermen came to Detroit Island, felled some cedar trees, and built themselves a substantial home. This was about fifteen or twenty rods south of the northwest point of De-

troit Island and was the first white man's habitation within the present limits of Door and Kewaunee counties. For a year they lived pleasantly in their new home, busy with their hunting and fishing.

Not far from there was a large Indian village, temporarily deserted by its migratory owners. In the summer of 1835, when the Indians returned and found some white men settled in one of their old corn-fields and cemeteries, war broke out at once.

The Indians were armed with smooth-bore rifles and bows and arrows, and when it got dark they opened a fusillade of shot against the cabin. This caused no damage as the logs were thick. The one window in the cabin was protected by a heavy plank shutter. After some time one of the men in the cabin got up to peer through the cracks in this plank shield. This was discovered and he was killed by a volley of bullets.

During the night the other man kept up a vigilant fight and as he was a good shot he picked off a number of the redskins. When light came the Indians saw a government vessel sailing close by. They hastily withdrew to Washington Island with their dead and wounded. The lone survivor, overcome by fatigue and fighting, managed to hail the boat and was taken on board.

This boat was on its way to the Government Bluff near Sturgeon Bay to get stone to improve the Chicago River front near Fort Dearborn. When they finally arrived there the story of the rescue of the beleaguered fisherman was told in the presence, among others, of F. H. and T. T. Miner. The latter, about ten years later, became a resident of Door County and to these men we are indebted for the story.

A few years later two other fishermen came to Washington Harbor to make their homes. We know the names of these men because they were among the first men to enter lands within Door County. John J. Robertson entered lot 5, section 25, town 34, range 29, 22 acres; January 7, 1839; and John Ball entered lots 2, 3 and 4 in the same section May 23, 1840. Both of these entries were on the south and east shore of Washington Island. They antedate the Rock Island entries, the next in time, by four or five years.

I have been unable to learn any more about these men. Very likely they, too, were driven off by the Indians, or, still more probable, suffered an untimely death at the hands of the redskins—martyrs to the cause of that army of pioneers which was soon to follow.

In 1848 this first vanguard of the approaching civilization arrived. These were Jonathan Roe, Henry Gardner, Amos Saunders, Henry D. Miner and Napoleon Stem. The same year the first marriage in

the county was solemnized by Henry D. Miner, who, in the capacity of an exhorter, undertook to unite Elizabeth Roe and Henry Gardner in matrimonial bonds. The next year or two they were joined by James Cornell, Jonathan Herrick, Josiah Temple, Joseph Smith, John Munger and Richard Mapson—all good Yankees from Illinois, who had spent some time on Rock Island and St. Martin's Island.

There was also Dr. William Ellis, who at this very early date aspired to minister to the physical needs of the little community. He evidently was quite a hustler, as it is told of him that he once skated from Washington Island to Green Bay—ninety miles—in one day. In spite of his hustling he found the locality too healthy for a physician, and after some years he moved west. In fact, according to reliable testimony, obstetrics was the only department of therapeutics for which there was any demand. In this field there was quite a lively business, as might be illustrated by the growth of James Cornell's family. He had ten children—Joseph, Thomas, Elizabeth (Root), Jane (Anderson), Mary Ann (Boice), Margareth (Cady), Eurette (Wellman), James, John and William—who all grew up and had good sized families. With their grandchildren and great-grandchildren they now number more than two hundred.

Of other fishermen who came in during the early '50s can be mentioned Volney S. Garrett, Pat and Dennis McDonald, John Beam, Robert McBride, Wm. J. Nolan, John Kenwood, Richard Whaling, Sam Graham, Joel Westbrook, Chauncey Haskell, David Hains, and William and Jacob Stall.

To many readers the enumeration of these names may mean little, but they recall long chapters of forgotten events to the old time survivors of these days. Many of these that have been mentioned have passed completely out of sight while the descendants of others have risen to positions of eminence in the county and state. It is the historian's duty, however, to impartially make record of all the pathfinders of those early days and not by discriminating selection flatter the vanity of the present-day survivors.

Washington Island with the adjacent islands were organized into a municipality, or town, June 20, 1850. This was a year or two before Door County was organized. The first town meeting was held at the house of H. D. Miner on Rock Island. Capt. Amos Saunders was elected the first chairman, H. D. Miner clerk and John A. Boone justice of the peace. These were the first public officials within what is now Door County.

Capt. Amos Saunders, the first chairman of the county, came to

Wisconsin in 1839. For many years he owned a vessel, of which he also was captain, which sailed between Chicago and Buffalo. In 1848 he settled at Washington Harbor, where he built a pier and supplied the Buffalo boats with cordwood for fuel. He was also the first wholesale fish buyer. For a time he owned all the land around Washington Harbor—about six hundred acres—and did a large and profitable business. In the early '50s he sold all his Washington Island interests to a man by the name of James M. Craw and moved West.

James M. Craw, the new leader of Washington Island, was one of the most remarkable men who have settled in Door County. He was a business man of many interests who with his son Marsden came from Cleveland, Ohio, in 1851. He is reported to have been "upwards of ninety years old" when he came but this great age did not prevent him from undertaking several large enterprises with great energy and enthusiasm. He bought at least a thousand acres of land, mostly shore property, for which he paid several thousand dollars. Most of these entries are dated between May 1 and November 1, 1852. He equipped several fishing crews to fish for him, started lumbering, and built a mill. He built a commodious dwelling house the same year, which is still standing and is now the oldest house in the county. It is known as "the white house," and stands on the west side of Washington Harbor. Near the house he also erected a barn which must have been a big one as it is reported to have cost more than three thousand dollars. From the very meager glimpses we have of this energetic old gentleman it is evident that he was a most interesting personality. But because he was of a different type from those around him it seems that misunderstanding caused him many enemies.

There was an oldish man living a little distance from Craw. His name was Joel Westbrook. His wife, Lucinda, is remembered as "one of the most respected women that ever lived on the island," but there is an equal unanimity of opinion that crafty old Joe was a worthless mischief. He used to stay around the Craw house a great deal, but as he spent his time there in fomenting trouble and playing mischievous and silly jokes, Mr. Craw finally forbade him the house. This enraged Westbrook greatly and he vowed vengeance.

During the summer of 1852 Westbrook cut five or six tons of hay on state lands on the island. He then went outside and bought some oxen, intending to haul logs the coming winter. During his absence the Crows, who had lands in that vicinity, hauled away the hay and put it into their barn. Westbrook on his return demanded payment



but a quarrel only resulted. It is told that shortly after dark one evening in March, 1858, he returned to the barn, emptied a bottle of kerosene on the hay and set fire to it. Just at that moment he was startled by the bark of an approaching dog and hurriedly ran off, leaving his mittens which he had laid down while lighting the fire. The barn blazed up a roaring furnace of flames but not before the mittens were discovered. As Westbrook had made threats, a party of men at once started in pursuit. Soon a scarf was picked up which had dropped from his pocket during his flight, and before he reached his cabin Westbrook himself was overhauled. He was brought back to the place of his crime amid great excitement. Cries of "throw him into the fire!" sounded on all sides. Finally the more temperate men present succeeded in quieting the crowd and Westbrook was taken away under strong guard. He was committed to the Brown County Jail, where he lay for eight months until his trial came off. He was defended by two very able lawyers and the jury disagreed. A strong public feeling was in the meantime worked up in his behalf, urging that he had great provocation and had been punished enough. He was then discharged. The loss of Craw & Son was placed at between three thousand six hundred and four thousand dollars. Shortly after this J. M. Craw returned to Ohio, presumably disgusted with the western sense of justice.

When Mr. Craw returned to Cleveland, Ohio, his principal business interests on Washington Island were bought up by the brothers W. H. and Delbert Ranney. They also came from Cleveland, Ohio. As the steamboats plying between Buffalo and Chicago stopped here once or twice a week there was a lively exchange of commodities. At Ranney's could be obtained anything from a paper of pins to a fully equipped fishing smack involving a deal of a thousand dollars or more. There was little or no use for notes and receipts. When the fishermen needed anything they went to Ranney's and got it, and when they had a little money to spare they commonly deposited with him as a banking house. Both parties had the utmost confidence in each other. Later when the farmers began to carve out their little clearings out of the forest the Ranneys just as readily extended to them the same easy credit. These later accounts were sometimes unprofitable because of the slow pay, but reckoned by the esteem the Ranneys gained for their kindness and generosity toward the struggling farmers they were the best investments the Ranneys have made.

About the time of the Civil war came Godfrey Kalmbach, Thomas and Timothy Coffey, Joe Lobdell, Chas. Johnson, Christian Jacob-



WHITE HOUSE, WASHINGTON HARBOR  
Oldest house in Door County; built in 1852 by J. M. Crow



son, Jacob Young, Levi Vorous, D. H. Rice and C. G. Lathrop. Joe Lobdell had been a member of the famous Mormon colony under King John Strang on Beaver Island. Most of the men mentioned above later became well known men in the county. D. H. Rice for several years represented the Town of Washington on the county board in the early '60s. Lathrop was also chairman of this town about 1870.

Over at West Harbor at "Bullock's Point" where later Freyburg's mill was located, there was in the earliest '50s quite a little settlement of negro fishermen. Of these are remembered two brothers by the name of Bullock, two brothers by the name of Woodruff, and others. Wm. C. Betts, Gullickson and other old-timers had merry recollections when they recalled how "old Woodruff, who was a black as coal," used to boast that he was the "first white man on Menominee River."

The chief man among these negroes was an old darkey by the name of Bennett. He did not personally fish but hired others to do it for him. He was an expert boat builder when not too much occupied with religious musings. He loved best to deliver monologues on spiritualistic manifestations, the gift of prophecy, the foundations of the New Jerusalem and similar sublimities. Frequently he would be roused to great religious fervor by the wickedness which he thought abounded around him and go out and hold revival meetings. He is worthy of particular mention in this respect as being the first man known to have conducted public religious services in Door County. In this endeavor he was not very successful. He was more popular as a person who possessed the glamour of historical importance. It is reported that he had stood at Commodore Perry's side (as his cabin boy) during the battle at Put-in-Bay, September 10, 1813, and accompanied the commodore when he passed from the Lawrence to the Niagara. The famous picture of the Battle of Lake Erie shows a young darkey in the boat with Commodore Perry. This was Bennett of Washington Island. He died there in 1854.

When Bennett, the colored prophet, died his work was taken up by a white evangelist, a Baptist minister by the name of Wm. B. Hamblin. He seems to have been a most effective revivalist, obtaining numerous conversions, especially among the more hardened sinners. These revivals were wound up by a wholesale immersion down at Washington Harbor. Among the spectators of the solemn ceremony was also a young scapegrace by the name of Mortimer Wellman. Seeing so many of his old cronies from the card table and whiskey jug among the proselytes, he thought to have a little fun with them.

In the midst of the ceremony he was seen to suddenly topple backward with outstretched arms and with a scream of distress fall into the water. Instantly the baptismal ceremony was in confusion and uproar. Forgetting their white robes of baptism, the shepherd and his entire flock rushed to the rescue. Some began frantically to push out an old yawl boat that lay on the beach, while others seized whatever was loose and threw it to the gasping man in the water. Finally two or three of the more daring proselytes at the risk of their own lives jumped in to save him. At this moment, however, he let out a ringing ha-ha, turned a sommersault in the water and swam off like an eel. It took some time before the newly converted were able to restrain the profanity which long habits prompted them to utter.

This Mortimer Wellman was one of a quartette of boys, all of about seventeen years of age, who had run away from their homes in Illinois and come to Washington Island in 1852. The other three were Volney Garrett, Geo. Roberts and Sam Runyon. Garrett became a well known resident of Door County but Roberts and Runyon did not live long. One day in March, 1855, they had come from St. Martin's Island to Craw's store to get the mail and a keg of Craw's wig-wam whiskey from Ohio. A heavy snow storm was blowing and they never returned to St. Martin's Island. A few days later they were found frozen stiff on the ice with the keg of whiskey between them.

At that time there were twelve or fourteen families on St. Martin's Island, who obtained their mail and many necessities by way of Washington Island. They were separated from the Washington Island colony by a twelve-mile strait over which it was exceedingly dangerous to pass in wintertime. The same winter that Roberts and Runyon perished a number of young fellows from St. Martin's had narrow escapes from drowning in passing over the ice. The older people therefore hired Henry D. Miner to bring them the mail, for which he was to receive 25 cents per letter or paper. One hardy old grandmother on St. Martin's expressed great disgust at their apparent cowardice, whereupon they defended themselves by claiming that Miner could walk on the water. At this she soundly berated them and drove them from the house.

The following spring the ice thawed suddenly and left several inches of water on the ice. One day the men looked out and saw Miner come splashing through the water. A hurry call was sent for the old granny who was sitting outside in the warm spring sun sunning herself. They pointed out to her Miner walking on the water. She

looked and rubbed her eyes. Finally she declared with the greatest conviction that if anyone had told her that such a miracle could happen she would never have believed it but she could not disbelieve her own eyes. There was Miner, sure enough, walking at ease on the water!

The conspirators met Mr. Miner and adjured him not to make explanations. If he did they would surely tar and feather him and ride him on a rail!<sup>1</sup>

There was in Washington Island a hearty appreciation of a joke, no matter how crude. They were not squeamish about a laugh, or the cause of it, no matter if it savored a little of vulgarity. Yet in spite of this rollicking sense of humor, which is the best proof of the superabundant physical health of the community, there was an under-current of sadness in the life of the island. That big rolling sea that surrounded them and fed them was also a grim taker of tolls. Scarcely a family on the island but mourned one or more of its members that had perished in its tricky depths. Sudden storms are common around the island, and often the greatest care was in vain, and a widow with her little ones were left to stare disconsolately out yonder where papa had gone and never returned.

More often, however, these frequent tragedies were caused by the general love for strong drink. There was a boat builder by the name of Bill Stahl. His boats were clippers to sail but they soon got a very bad reputation for killing fishermen. A Stahl boat and a bottle of whiskey was a combination which was soon looked upon as a sure end. Among the many who came to their end by means of a Stahl boat and a bottle of whiskey are remembered Peter Bridegroom, Robert Kennedy, James Love, Frank Wolf, Ed Weaver and a fellow by the name of Casper. Many others had narrow escapes.

#### THE COMING OF THE FARMERS

During the first thirty years after Robertson and Ball had erected their fishing shacks at Washington Harbor no farming to speak of was attempted. Some of the fishermen had a patch of potatoes back

<sup>1</sup> The Sheboygan Times of May 12, 1870, has the following account of St. Martin's Island:

"The Island of St. Martins, situated at the northerly end of Lake Michigan and containing about seven thousand acres, with a population of between one and two hundred, has been settled over fifteen years, and during that time they have not had any town organization—do not know to what county they belong—have no officers whatever—and have never paid a tax of any kind. It possesses the full average of wealth, sustains voluntarily a church and school, but has never felt the need of any legal organization; and as they have no offices to give, office seekers are unknown, and our only hesitation in giving them this notice is, that it may lead to a large emigration to this Utopia."

in the woods where they by using abundant fish offal for fertilizing produced amazing crops. William Nolen, for instance, one year in the latter '50s, produced almost a thousand bushels of potatoes on his field in section 30, long afterwards known as Nolen's field. There was also a man by the name of Smith, "with a harelip," who grew cabbages for the fishermen. This was on the farm now said to be owned by Carl Koyen.

But this was all until the Danes came. Back in the woods the axe of an occasional wood chopper or lumberman was heard, but these were transient visitors of no account. The fishermen lined the shore and reigned supreme.

These hardy pioneers of the deep for many years constituted a sort of a fisherman aristocracy who looked with pity upon the poor devils who later came in as wood choppers and farmers. They esteemed the land as of little or no value except to supply the few "taters" they needed to mix with their finny diet. Their thoughts and plans were of the sea, and its vagaries were a constant subject of conversation with them.

The reader may think that life on the island in those days was of necessity a lonesome and beggarly existence. This, however, is far from true. On the contrary, it was if anything too extravagant and hilarious. The waters of Washington Island have always been the best fishing grounds in the Great Lakes and amazing catches of fish were frequent. While few records have been kept, some authentic cases may be cited as illustrations. In the spring of 1860 Joseph Cornell caught a seventy-pound trout off Rock Island. In 1862 William Cornell, a fourteen-year-old boy, caught seven trout, the smallest weighing forty, the largest forty-eight, pounds. In the spring of 1882 two trout were caught on Fisherman's Shoal weighing fifty-eight and sixty-five pounds. They were not infrequently just as numerous as they were large. In 1869 Godfrey Nelson caught two hundred and twenty trout in two days. In the winter of 1873 Charley Sloop caught one hundred and twenty in one day and one hundred and forty in the next. Sometimes it required perseverance but the results were usually satisfactory, as was the case with Silas Wright, who fished for eleven days without a bite and then caught three boat loads on the twelfth. These are all authentic catches.

With such generous returns for the labor expended there was the usual extravagance that goes with easy money. To make up for the restrictions in life and diet imposed upon them by their surroundings the fishermen were lavish in their expenditures whenever an oppor-

tunity presented itself. A dollar was a very small coin in those days. Canned goods, fancy toys, laces and costly furnishings were imported in reckless quantities. Ranney, their easy-going merchant and fish-buyer, was also their banker and handed out liberal quantities of cash without any formality of notes and securities.

Nor was there any lack of merrymaking. As most of the fishermen kept a number of girls to help them in overhauling and "taking up" the nets—hanging them on reels to dry—a "shin dig" or dance was arranged at a moment's notice. On special holidays, like the Fourth of July, there was particularly much boisterous celebration. A schooner or tug would be hired to take a large crowd to Escanaba for grand doings. Another crowd would secure a rival boat, whereupon there would be a great race with immense shouting and laughter. On such occasions drunkenness was, of course, common, and fights would start and end in two seconds.

The year 1868 marks the change from a fishing to a farming community on the island. This was brought about by the Danes. In the fall of 1867 a young Dane by the name of Mellemberg, who had been spending a busy season as assistant to a fisherman at Washington Harbor, decided to go to Chicago for the winter to "have a good time." In the Windy City he stopped at the boarding house of one H. P. Anderson. This was the center for a small colony of countrymen of his who had just arrived in the land of promise and were eking out a precarious existence by doing odd jobs. They were lamenting the difficulties of getting a start in a strange land whose language they did not understand. But Mellemberg assured them fluently:

"If you will keep it a dark secret," he said, "I will tell you how you can start right in with a good income and soon be on Easy Street."

This sounded very good. "What was it?"

"Well, it is the easiest snap in the world," he said, "but you must not tell others about it."

No; they assured him they would be as silent as the grave about it, provided they could only get a chance.

"Well, all you have to do is to get an axe and come with me to Washington Island and cut wood whenever you please; you will get \$2.50 per cord for it."

"But what will the owner of the land say?"

"There is no owner. It is everybody's land. It belongs to the Government."

"How will we get our wood out?" they said; "we have no horses."



"You need no horses," he replied. "The storekeeper will haul it out for you and charge you half what you get."

"But we know nothing about work in the woods," they objected. "We can use a broadaxe but not a woodsman's axe."

"Broadaxe or woodchoppers', they are all axes with a handle, aren't they?" he argued. They couldn't quite agree to this but finally agreed to seize this easy snap as he described it.

Next spring when navigation opened a large company of Danes set out for Washington Island as follows: Hans P. Anderson (from Lolland); Lars P. Ottosen, Hans Olson Saabye, and Jens Markussen (from Zealand); John and Christian Larson (from Schleswig-Holstein), and Peder Nelson (from Fyen). There was also quite a number of other Danes who came with them and tried the woodchopping one winter and then went to Lincoln County, Kan., where they started a Danish settlement.

None of these Danes had any money except enough for transportation. In fact, some of them ran short even then. Hans O. Saabye, for instance, had the misfortune to lose his trunks in Green Bay because they were short \$6 in paying their board bill while staying there.

The first of these men to enter land were H. P. Anderson, who on May 19, 1868, entered the southeast  $\frac{1}{4}$ , section 36, township 34, range 29, and H. O. Saabye, who on May 28, 1868, entered the west  $\frac{1}{2}$ , northwest  $\frac{1}{4}$ , section 6, township 33, range 30.

Anderson and his friends did not find wood chopping the easy road to wealth that Mellemberg had foretold. On the contrary they found it a pretty rough road to poverty. But once in the woods they determined to stick it out. They therefore secured homestead rights to various quarter sections in the central part of the island and proceeded patiently to turn them into farming land.

"But it was a hard task, and no end to work. Logs three feet through were chopped off with an axe and rolled together to be burned up. Just think of burning up hundreds of thousands of feet of white pine, basswood, clear oak, butternut, cedar, hemlock, hardwoods of all kinds, because it was the only way to get the land cleared quickly enough, as they all wanted to farm.

"The first winter we were here flour was \$12 per barrel and then it came down to \$10. A gallon of syrup was \$1.50; butter 50 cents a pound; everything else in proportion. So when they started to cut wood and could only make 50 cents per day, they were not getting

rich very fast. Our first storekeeper happened to be a very good man and this helped the first settlers a good deal. His name was Ranney." <sup>2</sup>

According to the U. S. Census of 1870 there were on Washington Island, June 1, 1870, only 189 acres of cleared land. On this was produced the previous season 30 bushels of wheat, 1,151 bushels of potatoes, 53 tons of hay and 1,628 pounds of butter. There were only 10 horses, 16 cows, 4 oxen and 14 swine on the island.

Little by little, however, their labor was rewarded and they attained circumstances of ease and prosperity there probably just as early as their countrymen who left for the virgin prairies of Kansas, where they suffered much hardship at the hands of the Indians.

In fact, farming on Washington Island did not prove as impossible an undertaking as was first supposed. Their little clearings yielded abundant crops which were easily shipped out on the many vessels that visited the island. The only real drawback about life on the island, and this still remains, is the difficulty of communication with the outside world in winter time. In the pioneer days mail was brought from Green Bay once a week in summer time. In winter time it was brought twice a month when the going was possible but sometimes a couple of months would pass by before ice conditions would make travel possible. L. P. Ottosen recalls how they once went for seven weeks without any word from the outside world. Finally a man was found to make the trip—not so much because of the mail, but because the whole island had run out of chewing tobacco. All possible substitutes such as poplar bark, juniper twigs, cabbage leaves and what not had been tried without relief and further abstinence was intolerable. For days they waited in eager suspense for the return of their messenger. At last a large party of young fellows walked out on the ice to meet him, or rather the quid, half way. When he appeared in the distance they broke into a run and soon were eagerly pulling at the strappings of his sled. The plug was found and immediately passed around, each one snapping off a generous allowance with intense relish. There was a moment of silent chewing, whereupon they all turned homeward, staining the ice an arduous brown and feeling that all was well with the world.

Henry D. Miner was the man who for years risked his life to bring the mail and necessary supplies to the island from Green Bay. He was an eccentric man of deep religious convictions, with a most burdensome outfit of rules, precepts, habits and other ironclad regulations of life and daily conduct. Among his oddities it is told that

<sup>2</sup> From a letter from C. H. Saabye.

whatever he took in or harvested, such as honey, fish, vegetables, etc., was always divided into three portions—one for himself, one for his wife and one for his son, Jesse. If any of them received company it was obligatory upon the one who was honored with the visit to feed the company and the family out of his or her particular portion. His wife sometimes rebelled at the strait and narrow way that was laid out for her. Upon such occasions Mr. Miner with the best intentions in the world would tie his helpmeet to a chair and then proceed to administer a dose of physic and a lecture on proper conduct, meaning by this double application to purge both the flesh and the spirit of his consort from the evil that beset her.

Aside from these individual peculiarities Mr. Miner was a man of sterling qualities who had braved the dangers of the ice in the service of his fellowmen more than any other man in the county. Two or three others in the early days attempted to carry the mail and lost their lives in their first or second attempt, but H. D. Miner for thirteen years successfully carried the mail between Green Bay and Washington Island. This is a distance of 100 long miles and was usually covered in three days as follows: The first day from Washington Harbor to Ephraim; the second day from Ephraim to Robert Stephenson's at Little Sturgeon Bay; the third day from Stephenson's to Green Bay. The fourth day was spent in making the necessary purchases and then followed the home run with a loaded pack sled. Time after time and year after year this dauntless mail carrier used to push through his perilous journey of 200 miles on the ice. The cracks in the ice were many and tricky but he knew how to avoid them. The snow drifts were deep and laborious but he conquered them. The winds were bitter and the cold intense but he survived them. Many a time, however, his plight was so desperate amid the lonesomeness of the ice and the bitter cold that his far distant island home seemed to fade utterly away, impossible of attainment. Mr. Miner was not inclined, however, to boast of his experiences on the ice and we have but meager glimpses of his hardships. He was once asked to give an account of his hardest trip and this account is given below. It is but a bald and terse report, however, of his experience, and it is only between lines that we catch a glimpse of the dreary loneliness of the ice, the paralyzing fatigue, the bitter cold and the intrepid spirit that conquered in this heroic adventure.

"In the winter of 1856 Wm. Nolan came to me with \$20 to pay for a trip to Green Bay for the mail. The following Monday morn-

ing I started at 4 o'clock with the temperature at 23 below zero (it was a very cold winter). I took a lunch of plenty of fat pork and molasses as I had found fats and sweets indispensable in a long journey on the ice. I reached Ole Larson's house near Ephraim at 4 in the afternoon. The next day I reached Bob Stephenson's at Little Sturgeon and on the third day I made Green Bay. The next day, Thursday, it blew a gale and snowed heavily. During the day I picked up at various stores quite a large sleighload of calicoes, muslins, fishhooks, tobacco and other things. I also got the accumulated mail for three months for the island, including some very old papers. I also bought a few new ones so as to try to catch up a little with the times. Friday morning it was cold and clear with the wind from the north cutting like a razor. It was 30 degrees below zero and my friends in Green Bay urged me to stop as they did not think it was possible to endure the extremely cold weather. But as I was anxious to reach Ephraim by Saturday night—the only place in the county where they had religious service—I started out at 6 A. M. By 10 o'clock I wanted a lunch but the cold was so great I did not dare to sit down to eat it but nibbled a little as I walked on. I had planned to reach Sherwood's at Sawyer Harbor but by noon I saw that I would be fortunate if I could reach Stephenson's. At 4 o'clock I took another lunch which braced me up. I had been ten hours on the ice, pulling a heavily loaded sled against the wind and my knees were aching and trembling. I saw that it would be impossible for me to reach Stephenson's that day but I had heard of a Belgian family which had moved in the fall before. I therefore turned in toward the shore to hunt them up. The snow was deep here and soon I stumbled and fell. I was so completely exhausted and sleepy that I was not able to get up. However, I crawled up and lay across the sled and began to kick and claw in the snow until I was able to get up. I now dragged along for a long time until it got dark, when I again fell down. The wind still blew but it seemed now like something soft and gentle cooing me to sleep and I wanted to shut my eyes and rest forever. Far away, however, I saw a light flash up and I staggered to my feet and made for the light. When I reached the place I found the inmates engaged in a fierce quarrel and they would not let me in. Two young men, however, took my sled and accompanied me through the woods to another Belgian family. It was a very small hut, just erected, but they received me very kindly and in a few minutes, after a grand supper of bear meat, I lay on

the floor sound asleep. Three days later I was back in Washington Harbor with my sleighload of calicoes."

In the latter '60s, shortly after the coming of the Danes the first Government mail service was installed. This took effect the second Tuesday of November and the mail was carried from Ephraim or Ellison Bay to Washington Island on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month in winter and once a week in summer. Mr. H. D. Miner was the first postmaster and received a salary of \$10 for the first year in which he held office. The service was gradually improved until finally in 1900 a daily mail service was established and the long isolation of the island ceased.

Washington Island enjoys the distinction of having sent more soldiers to the war than any other town in the county. An idea of the large proportion of old soldiers that once lived on the island may be gained from the list of owners of a certain piece of land on the island known as Indian Point. This was originally pre-empted in 1858 by Henry D. Miner, who served nearly two years in Battery G 2, of the Regular Illinois Light Artillery. In 1855 the Point was bought by John Beam who served in a Wisconsin regiment. He was killed in one of the big battles with more than fifteen hundred dollars on his person. He served as banker for his comrades and used to charge 2 and 3 per cent per month. In 1858 Marsden Craw bought the Point. He joined the army in 1862 with his three sons. Mr. Craw and his oldest son were both badly wounded in the battle of Chicamauga. In 1865 the Point was bought by J. N. Harrison who was a veteran from the Mexican war. In the early '70s his widow sold the Point to Wm. Betts, the present owner, who served as sergeant in a Wisconsin regiment for four years during the war. This piece of land has therefore never been owned by any except old soldiers since it was purchased from the Government more than sixty years ago.

Among other old soldiers on Washington Island may be mentioned Henry Gould, Henry Gardner, David Haines, Hugh L. McFadden, Archie Lochray, Alexis Ward and Wm. D. Lee who all died on the southern battle fields. James and Richard Roe, John Wagner, Rufus M. Wright were among those who were more or less wounded. Joseph Cornell, Ed Richmond, Wm. W. Bradshaw, Wm. Shurtleff, Ira Westbrook, Abraham Grover, Hiram Kinney, V. E. Rohn, James Fuller, David Kaquetosh, Wm. Smith, Benare Leque, William and Jacob Stall, Warren Sriver, Lance Alden, Jesse Betts, John Mansean, Joseph Monossa and James Fletcher were also in

active service for a considerable length of time but most of these escaped unhurt.

After the arrival of L. P. Ottosen and his party in 1868 there was quite a steady influx of Scandinavians who nearly all began to clear land and till the soil. Among the earliest were August Berg, Louis Johnson, Christian Olson, Andrew Bommen, Ole P. Olson and Capt. Knut O. Schelswick—all Norwegians—and Nils Fries, Mads Hanson, Carl Thompson, Iver P. Hanson and Wm. Frederick Wickmann—all Danes. These all came in 1869 and 1870. The Danes now number about one-half of the entire population of the island. The last mentioned, Mr. W. F. Wickmann, deserves particular mention because he was instrumental in bringing thousands of pioneers of a new people—the Icelanders—to America. Washington Island is the place where they first settled in America and there are still about two hundred Icelanders on the island—about one-fifth of the total population. The following account of their coming is prepared for this history by Arni Gudmundsson, one of the first Icelandic settlers on the island:

✓ "The Icelandic immigration to North America began in 1870, when four young men went from Eyrarbakki, Iceland. They were bound for Milwaukee, where they met Wm. Wickmann, a Danish gentleman, who had for several years been employed at a mercantile establishment, from where these young men came, and who, by corresponding with his former employer had given his view of the New World or rather that part of it where he had made his home since 1865, and rather induced people to come West and seek their fortunes under the Stars and Stripes.

"Mr. Wickmann, expecting the young men to come in 1870, had previously been looking over Door County in order to find a suitable place for an Icelandic colony and going to Washington Island, it seems that he was taken with the place, and concluded to take the expected immigrants there and thus start a settlement. The four young men, whose names were John (Jon) Gislason, Gudmunden Gudmundsson, Arni Gudmundsson and John (Jon) Einarsson, after some stay in Milwaukee went to the island with Mr. Wickmann, and two of them, G. Gudmundsson and Arni Gudmundsson, are still living here, while John Einarsson died many years ago in Milwaukee, and John Gislason was called in September, 1912. I said that the immigration to this country had begun in 1870, although a few Icelanders went to Utah, several years before that time, but

after 1870 the influx began in earnest, though (the) most of the people went to Canada.

"In 1871, or possibly 1872, Johannes Magnusson with wife and daughter arrived, they stayed here for several years but went to Minnesota some thirty years ago, and took up a homestead claim of 160 acres. The old pair are both dead but their daughter, Ellen, is living in Minnesota. The same year Einar Bjarnason and his son, August, arrived. Mr. Bjarnason stayed here a couple of years at that time, but joined his family in Milwaukee and lived there for several years but again came to the island and bought a small farm. He was the father of a family of fifteen children, most of them coming to the island for shorter or longer stays. Bjarnason died here some thirty years ago, but his widow is still living here, and three of their children.

"In June, 1872, a party of fifteen persons left Eyrarbakki for Milwaukee and most of this flock came to the island in the fall, three of them being here yet, to wit: Mrs. G. Gudmundsson, Arni Gudmundsson and Olafen Hannesson. Several young men of this party were pretty well educated, having frequented the Latin school of Reykjavik and one being a graduate of that institution; his name was Paul (Pall) Thorlaksson. Others that may be mentioned were Hans Thorgroinsen, A. Sveinbjornsson, Stephen Stephensen, etc. Mr. Thorlaksson was the only one that never came here to stay, but visited the island once. He went to St. Louis to read (study) theology. When crossing from Liverpool to Quebec, our interpreter, a Norwegian seaman, asked us to give him a recommendation as to his ability as a guide and companion for emigrants. Mr. Thorlaksson complied with his request, by giving him his attest in English, Danish, German, French, Latin and Greek, just for the fun of it and to the great pleasure of the interpreter. But this does not really belong to the history of Washington Island, just a little detour."

"The winter of 1872 to 1873 was a very severe one, much like the present winter. Several of the young fellows who came this year had scarcely done a day's hard work at home, so it taxed their energy, to make their living through the winter months, by chopping cedar poles and cordwood, their ears and noses nipped by frost going to their work over a small clearing. Work they had to or starve, and they chose the first; a group of them stayed at farmhouse, having to sleep in a shed adjoining the frame building where you could count the stars between the logs, but the boys had good feather beds

\* Thorlaksson became a minister in the Norwegian Synod of the Lutheran Church in 1875. In 1878 he founded the Icelandic settlement in Pembina County, N. D.



A. GUDMUNDSSON





with them and warm clothes of Icelandic wool, so they did not suffer by the cold, but were joyful, hopeful and almost happy to have to rough it. Navigation started late in the spring, and it was well into the month of May before the old steamer Truesdell could get through the ice up to Washington Harbor dock. As soon as the boat got to the landing several of the young fellows jumped aboard, and a good part of them have kept away from the island ever since. A couple with two young daughters were in this group of fifteen. Thorkell Arnason was the man's name; he bought a small farm here but sold it again and left with his family.

"After 1872 a few came now and then, some left but others made their home here. Dr. Th. Gudmundsen arrived in 1884, but died January 29, 1899. At present there are about sixteen families of the original stock, that is, people born in Iceland. The population of those of Icelandic origin is likely somewhere near two hundred or about one-fifth of the entire population of old Pottawattomie."

When the Ranneys sold their interests on Washington Island their lands, pier and business passed into the hands of a man by the name of John Furlong. While the Ranneys enjoy the pleasant reputation of having been most generous and fairminded business men, Mr. Furlong has the reputation of using his opportunities on the island to build up an oppressive monopoly and for a half century blocked all development of Washington Harbor.

He owned the only pier on the harbor and permitted no fisherman or trader to tie up to it unless he would sell his fish to Furlong at whatever price the latter would pay. All incoming and outgoing freight was also charged an exorbitant dockage to the great injury of the farmers. As he owned all the land bordering on the harbor he had here what seemed an ironclad monopoly. These and other alleged abuses of his opportunities were much resented and discussed by the people on the island.

Finally a plan was found which promised relief. A petition was signed and filed asking the town board of supervisors to lay out a road to the water's edge near the head of the harbor. The petition was adopted by the board and the road was laid out. At the point where the new highway reached the shore the farmers proceeded to build a pier. The stone which was removed in grading the new road was used to fill the pier.

At this point Furlong intervened. He raised a big cry that the new pier would ruin the business of his own and demanded \$1,000 damages. He also demanded another \$1,000 damages for his pros-

pective labor in removing the stone from the new pier which stone he charged had wrongfully been taken from his land. Suit was entered to recover these damages and to restrain the farmers from finishing the pier.

The action was entitled John Furlong vs. John Larson, Mads Hanson, H. P. Anderson, C. B. Lind, I. P. Hanson, Wm. Anderson, E. W. Steward, Christian Larson and Claus Zink. The sheriff was sent to arrest these men and the order is dated May 16, 1876, and seven of the defendants were arrested May 24, 1876, the sheriff being unable to find Lind and Zink. These seven were brought to Sturgeon Bay and put into the county jail. The jail at that time was a wretched little structure, scarcely big enough to room three persons. To crowd seven men into this little hole was therefore to subject them to great hardship and danger to health.

On May 26th, one of the prisoners wrote a letter to the public which is printed in the Door County Advocate. The letter is as follows:

"To the Editor of the Advocate:

"I did not leave all hope behind me when I was thrust into this dingy bastile; the consciousness of committing no wrong, and the belief that truth is mighty and will prevail sustained me and my fellow prisoners in this our time of trouble. I will briefly relate to you how it came about that we were brought here, and your readers can judge for themselves if they think we should be punished this way.

"On the 31st of March the Town of Washington laid out a road to low water mark on the shore and had the same recorded according to law in the clerk's office. The supervisors of the town then let the contract to William Anderson to work and make a good road of it. There was a quantity of stone to be removed to grade the road and there being no place handy to put it, the farmers decided to build a pier and use the stone for filling up the cribs, and thus save trouble in disposing of them otherwise. The dock was commenced 16 feet from low water mark and was to be 40 feet wide and 190 feet long.

"On the 24th of May seven of us were arrested on an order of Judge Ellis, on a complaint made by John Furlong for trespass, and brought to this place to give bail for \$500 each, failing which, we were sent to jail. This comes very hard on us, two men being obliged to leave sick wives, one with a babe just born, and the other about to be confined. Owing to the backward season, none of us got in our crops, and if we cannot get released so as to return to our work it will be very hard for us to provide for our families.

"The sheriff, Mr. Wm. Wagener, does all he can for our comfort, and grants us what privileges he can, consistent with his duty.

"E. W. STEWARD.

"Door County Jail, May 26, 1876."

This letter created a tremendous storm of indignation against Mr. Furlong and the prisoners were released June 10, 1876. The action was tried at the July term, 1877, and Furlong got a judgment for \$50 damages and costs taxed at \$241.92.

While Mr. Furlong, due to the mysterious technicalities of the law, obtained a nominal victory, the feeling against him on Washington Island ran so high that he moved away from the island. He continued to hold his lands, however, and the shore property of the harbor remains as undeveloped as it was when Robertson and Ball settled there seventy years ago. Washington Harbor is one of the most beautiful spots in the county which if developed would bring in a large amount of money in taxes. But like the dragon in the fairy tale brooding over his treasure and permitting no one to use it, so the Furlongs sit tight, effectually blocking all improvements in this fair spot.

In the Door County Advocate for July 31, 1873, is an interesting account of Washington Island, written by an outside visitor, giving a glimpse of its people, its appearance and its industries almost a half century ago. The following is an extract:

"My walk of four miles over a grass-grown road through the interior was worth the exertion. A Sunday stillness prevailed, varied by the tinkling of numerous cow bells. Every cow wears a bell. At a bend of the road I came upon a white church perhaps twenty feet wide. It had a simple spire with a gilt ball and was almost hidden in foliage. Near by was the cabin of a maker of wooden shoes and its owner carrying a jug, and some children gathering wild strawberries. Occasionally there came the crack of the axe from the tall woods. I encountered a section of a pine tree five feet in diameter fallen across the track.

"In the forest, long, grave-like mounds show where fallen trunks had slept and decayed undisturbed for centuries. Trees splintered and hurled in all directions by the lightnings and winds of recent years constituted a formidable chevaux de frise to the advance of civilization. The clearings are made mostly by Danes. Their buildings consist of a log house to live in and another for tools, provisions and perhaps animals. There are said to be 14 farms on the island



consisting of from 15 to 25 acres each. Very good crops of grain and fruits are raised.

"We arrived at the island towards 4 o'clock, kept around to the north of it, and bore down into Washington Harbor, the metropolis, which lies at the end of a small bay and looks north.

"At the dock is the store and warehouse of Mr. D. W. Ranney, the only merchant and principal proprietor of the place. About it on the steep hillside are clustered fifteen or twenty weather-beaten gray cottages and dry-houses with stone chimneys. Mr. Ranney's residence, a large white house with a piazza, looks out prominently among them. Piles of cordwood, the cutting of which is a profitable winter occupation for the inhabitants, are a prominent feature in the foreground. On the dock are arranged rows of fish barrels just delivered from the steamer. Half a dozen fishing boats are tied about a smaller dock on which are built picturesque fish houses of logs and bark. Across the harbor there are more boats and scattered gray houses. Ledges of limestone rock around both shores are laid in regular courses and resemble fortifications. At intervals square blocks have fallen out and leave the appearance of port holes. Mr. Ranney estimates the product of the island as follows: There were got out during the last year 2,700 cords of wood, 3,500 telegraph poles, 25,000 cedar posts and about 13,000 packages of fish, from 5,000 to 7,000 bbls. of salt and 8,000 half barrels are sold per annum.

"The population including that of St. Martin's, Detroit and Rock Island, all within a short distance, is estimated at from 250 to 300. The greater number are engaged in fishing on the coasts as far as 16 miles out. A good outfit consists of a boat and from 50 to 60 nets, the whole worth perhaps from \$600 to \$800. The nets are of two kinds known as "gill" and "pound" nets. The first are made in lengths of about 180 yds., from 4 to 5 ft. deep and with a mesh  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches square. The fish run against these, which are kept upright in the water, by means of floats and weights, entangle their gills in the large meshes and are captured."

In the above account reference is made to "a maker of wooden shoes carrying a jug." He was a humorous character who is remembered by all because of the smiles he provoked. His name was Christian Jenson, but he was better known as the wooden shoemaker. He received this title because he made wooden shoes which were much used by the Danes. He was a simple minded fellow who became crippled by an explosion of a lamp. Mr. Ranney gave him a house on the hill near the Bethel Church and saw to it that he was supplied



with the necessities of life. This house on the hill was named "Gibraltar" by the wooden shoemaker and here he was very happy. He built a sort of a tower and here the young people of the island had great sport playing pranks and Fourth of July stunts almost any day. The wooden shoemaker was as much of a boy as any, entering into the sport with the greatest enthusiasm. He used to boss the boys around like a buccaneer while they would ring bells, blow horns and carry on a most boisterous hubbub. Personally he operated a fearful contraption which he called a "rattle-machine." When the old fellow got out his rattle machine there were great doings at "Gibraltar."

The wooden shoemaker had a failing for strong drink which Mr. Ranney did not permit him to indulge in. The shoemaker was therefore in severe straits to obtain his liquor. Mr. Jacob Smith, one of the most respected church members of Ephraim, occasionally visited the island with a trading hooker. The wooden shoemaker persuaded Mr. Smith, who knew nothing of his failing, to procure for him five gallons of alcohol in Green Bay. He needed the alcohol, he explained, to polish his wooden shoes. Mr. Smith bought the alcohol and put it into an empty beer keg. The keg had a quantity of rosin in it which was dissolved by the alcohol. When the wooden shoemaker received his alcohol he passed the word around for a grand time at "Gibraltar." A large crowd gathered to celebrate with the old fellow but the mixture of rosin and alcohol was too much even for the seasoned drinkers of the shoemaker's party. The next day they were all wretchedly sick to Mr. Smith's chagrin, Ranney's disgust and the wooden shoemaker's complete mystification.

The shoemaker was always hopeful and good natured except when the subject was matrimony. He courted every unmarried woman on the island but in vain. Once he disposed of a number of wooden shoes and felt very prosperous and hopeful. He sallied out and offered himself to every woman he met. "Don't be afraid," he said. "I can support a wife. I have \$15 coming to me!"

Washington Island is a land of many charms and progressive people but suffers under a serious handicap—the passage across the Door. For months in the fall and spring no man is sure of his footing in crossing the Door. Where the ice may be perfectly safe in the morning the waves may wash in the evening. The shifting winds that rush through the Door play all sorts of havoc with the ice. The following is an account of the various modes of crossing the Door on a single day in March, 1914, copied from a Door County paper:





"St. Patrick's Day will long be remembered as a remarkable day on account of the various modes of crossing and the abundant travel across the Door. The mail went and returned in a motor boat; Peter Anderson drove across the Door after passengers with a sleigh; Bo L. Anderson returned from the county seat with a horse and cutter; Charles Jensen arrived home from Chicago with a horse and buggy; and Harry Dana came across with an auto. Each one of these parties report that the going was good for this particular rig."

Washington Island, because of its great beauty and bracing climate, is admirably adapted to cater to the tourist business. It has also received a not inconsiderable patronage of this kind. The uncertainties of crossing the Door are, however, a serious handicap to success in this business. To overcome this the progressive islanders have lately planned to provide a ferry boat to serve the purpose of a bridge over which the tourist and other travelers could ride in ease in their motors. In 1916 the county board was asked to make an appropriation of \$500 to aid this enterprise in providing dockage, etc., to be paid as soon as the ferry was in operation. This appropriation was unanimously passed by the county board which saw the great significance of this improvement, providing as it planned the missing link in the Door County highway system. For some reason, however, the county clerk chose to take a hostile attitude toward the movement and sought legal opinion to ascertain if such a contingency was provided for in the statutes. As the question of ferry boats to Washington Island had never before come up, the laws of Wisconsin were silent on the subject and the appropriation was declared illegal. A bill was then introduced in the Legislature and there passed, but was vetoed by the governor. The ferry project thereupon died.

It was very unfortunate that the county clerk killed this project by inviting legal obstacles. The county board which passed the appropriation was perfectly willing and able to see the matter through.



## CHAPTER XXIX

### A MAN OF IRON: A TALE OF DEATH'S DOOR

When the early French explorers found their way to the upper lakes it was not long before they discovered that the door or passage leading from Lake Michigan to Green Bay at the extremity of the Door County Peninsula was an extremely dangerous passage. They therefore called it *Porte des Morts*—the Door of Death. Here strong currents and fierce winds were often suddenly encountered which capsized their crafts or drove them irresistibly on to the rock-bound shores. Here, according to tradition, La Salle's Griffin, the first sail vessel to ply the great lakes, was wrecked about 1680 and here since then hundreds of proud vessels have met their doom. One week in September, 1872, no less than eight large vessels were stranded or wrecked in "the Door." In the summer of 1871 almost a hundred vessels suffered shipwreck here.

Just as turbulent as these straits are in summer just as treacherous are they in winter. The ice forms late and disappears early. At no time is it absolutely safe. Owing to strong currents brought on by shifting winds the ice quickly breaks up. Where the ice may be several feet thick in the morning the waves may wash in the evening.

Many stories could be told of terrible adventures in crossing this treacherous bridge of ice. Many a man and horse have here had a desperate battle with death while plunging through the smashing ice, and more than one man has seen his last hope of life perish as clinging to a cake of ice he has been driven out into Lake Michigan where soon his frail raft would break up. One of the most remarkable of these terrible adventures was that of Robert Noble on New Year's Day in 1864. In the matter of endurance—almost superhuman—it is unique among all the narratives of those who lived to tell the tale.

On December 30, 1863, Robert Noble left Detroit Harbor after having spent the Christmas holidays visiting with friends. He was a splendid young fellow physically, was twenty-five years old, weighed



220 pounds and stood six feet in his stockings. He had an old scow and for a while had but little difficulty in making his way among the broken ice floes outside of the harbor. Abreast of Plum Island, however, he struck a large field of thick ice through which it was impossible to force a passage. With some difficulty he finally made a landing on Plum Island, hoping that the wind might clear a passage for him to the mainland. It was now getting dark, it began to snow and the weather which had been mild was getting very cold.

Groping about in the darkness he finally came to an abandoned fishing hut which had neither roof nor doors and windows. Here he made a fire but had difficulty in making it burn owing to the falling snow. By morning it went out altogether. Ice was now forming all around the island and seeing he would have to remain there for some time he thoroughly explored the island. He found that the only other building was a ruined lighthouse of which only the chimney and the cellar remained. Here was a sort of a fireplace and here he managed after much trouble to light a fire, but not before his very last match had been used. This fire he heaped up with the fuel he could find, becoming quite hopeful as its warmth began to be felt. Suddenly, however, his hopes were blasted. The chimney was full of snow. When this began to melt there was a rush and a tumble and his fire was buried under an avalanche of snow. This was a most depressing blow as it was now getting dark again and the weather was getting bitterly cold. He had a revolver with him and made a number of attempts to start a fire by putting strips of lining from his overcoat over the muzzle, hoping that the explosion would cause the cloth to catch fire. But this was all in vain. Yet he managed to hold out in the little cellar all that night without food, sleep or heat. Through the interminably long hours of that bitter night he paced about in his little prison, keeping from utterly freezing by all kinds of exercise, moving stones and logs about and otherwise exerting himself. Finally the gray dawn of January 1, 1864, appeared.

January 1, 1864! Old settlers have not yet after a lapse of fifty years forgotten the intense cold of that day. It is remembered as the coldest day in the history of Door County. Tales are told of water freezing alongside of burning stoves; of the impossibility of keeping warm in snug beds; of cattle freezing to death in their stalls.

Robert Noble did not know anything about this. He only knew that it was indescribably cold, that he was starving and that he had gone for two nights without sleep. He realized that his only hope



of life was to leave that deserted island at once. The wind had now broken up the ice which was bobbing about in a slushy formation. He launched his boat and for a quarter of a mile managed to force his way toward Washington Island. Then the ice became firm and he could make no further progress with the boat.

As the ice was not very thick he tore out the seats in the scow and by help of some ropes fastened them to his feet in the shape of rude snowshoes. He hoped by this to distribute his weight on the fragile ice. For a few steps this worked all right when suddenly the ice broke and he was plunged into the icy water. Fortunately he had a long pole with him which saved him from going under. He tried to kick the boards off his feet but could not. Hanging to the pole by one arm he managed to secure his pocket knife and reaching down cut the ropes that held the boards to his feet. Finally he managed to get out of the water and back to the boat.

He was now extremely cold, his wet clothing was frozen to his body and his arms and legs were thickly encased in an armor of ice. Yet such was his splendid vitality that by stamping and tramping about in the scow he once more got circulation through his limbs. As soon as this was obtained he again took two boards out of the scow and lying down on these, so as to distribute his weight over as large surface of the ice as possible, he attempted to pull himself toward the shore of Detroit Island about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles away. He had not gone far, however, before the ice again broke and he went down head first. By the time he could turn over in the water the current had carried him under the ice. Then followed a terrible struggle under water hampered as he was with his heavy garments which were frozen stiff. In his youth he had accustomed himself to diving and remaining under water a long time. This now saved his life. After an interminable struggle against the current and the ice he finally regained the surface through the hole he had fallen into.

He now gave up the attempt of gliding over the treacherous ice by means of boards or otherwise. Instead of that he stayed in the freezing water, using his ice-encased arms and hands as sledgehammers to smash the thin ice and open a passage. Through this he glided like an animated iceberg, half swimming, half crawling by help of his eblows. When he came to a floe of heavy ice he pulled himself on top.

For hours this incredible struggle against the merciless elements continued. Time and time again he believed himself lost but again





and again he conquered, smashing, plunging, rolling and swimming with the temperature 40 degrees below zero.

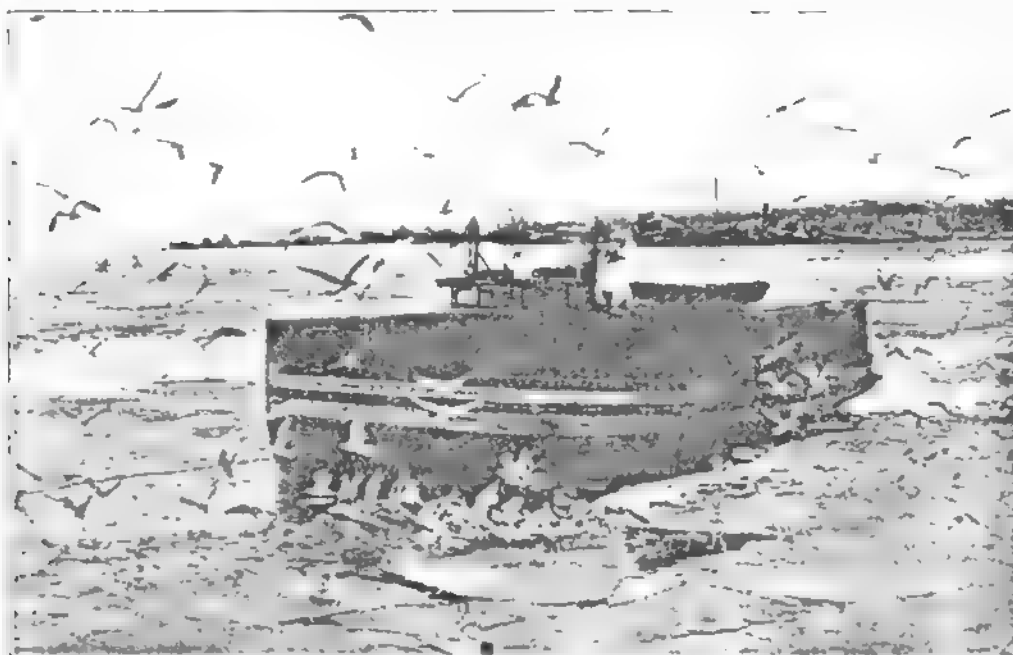
This went on till late in the afternoon when he reached the shore of Detroit Island. Here he encountered a high barrier of ice made by the freezing spray of the waves. Loaded down as he was with several hundred pounds of ice he was not able to pull himself across this barrier. Finally he found a tunnel in the barrier, such as is sometimes formed by the dashing spray, and wormed his way through this.

By this time his feet and hands were frozen stiff and senseless but yet he was able to keep on his feet. He crossed the ice of Detroit Harbor without further accidents and came about dark to the house of one of the fishermen. He was met at the door by the owner who stared amazed at this bulky apparition of ice in the shape of a man. To him Noble quickly explained what had happened and begged him to provide a tub of water in which he could put his feet and two pails for his hands. This was done, his boots, trouser legs and sleeves were cut away, and his limbs were submerged in cold water. Immediately upon this the poor sufferer who had had no food or sleep for three days and two nights, fell asleep.

Unfortunately for him a meddler just then appeared upon the scene. A neighbor came in who upon hearing the story said cold water would not take the frost out: kerosene was necessary. This was done and the poor man's feet were soaked in kerosene. However the kerosene was bitterly cold, far below the freezing point of water, and, instead of taking out the frost it effectually prevented the frost from leaving the affected parts. When Noble awoke his limbs had turned black.

Then followed bitter months of suffering for poor Noble. There was no physician on the island—the nearest was at Green Bay, 100 miles away. Nor was there any means of getting him there. There was not a horse or an ox on the island, and nearly all the able bodied men were off to the southern battlefields. Bert Ranney, the Washington Harbor storekeeper, ever ready to help a sufferer, took him over to his house and here he received as good care as the island could give. Here for month after month Robert Noble sat, as helpless as a child, enduring fierce agonies of pain in dreary idleness. One by one his foul smelling fingers dropped off and little by little the putrid flesh of his legs peeled off. After a while only the white, lifeless bones of his feet were left while his system with never ceasing pain and agony adapted itself to the changing conditions.





THE TUG SYLVIA BREAKING ICE IN THE BAY IN SPRINGTIME



THE TUG GEORGE PANKRATZ BREAKING ICE, WINTER OF 1900



Finally in June, 1864, an opportunity presented itself to send Noble away. There was at that time no local physician at Sturgeon Bay but a Doctor Farr from Kenosha was temporarily there while negotiating the purchase of Graham's sawmill. This Doctor Farr was willing to do the operation but lacked the necessary instruments. He obtained some from Green Bay, but the only saw to be obtained was an ordinary butcher's saw. With this rough tool Robert Noble's legs were amputated below the knees.

The operation was successful and soon Robert Noble once more felt fit for work. By the help of friends he obtained artificial limbs and soon he was back in the harness drilling wells. In spite of his lack of fingers he developed a marvelous dexterity in handling the tools of his trade and he was never one to ask for favors because of his physical deformities. Later on he for many years operated the ferry between Sturgeon Bay and Sawyer.

Such tremendous energy, such indefatigable endurance, such fortitude in suffering should be rewarded with a public monument—and a pension. Unfortunately the keen competition of later years has driven this sturdy old pioneer to the wall and his reward now is a berth in a poorhouse.



## CHAPTER XXX

### STURGEON BAY

Sturgeon Bay seems to have been a center for human intercourse long before white men came here and began to do business. The remains of several Indian villages have been discovered in or near Sturgeon Bay which show that it had a large population hundreds of years ago. One of these villages was located on the property of the "Cove" summer resort about three hundred feet south of the boat landing. Another was across the bay at Circle Ridge on block 5. A great many fine relics have been unearthed here. Another village site has been found on block 8 of Wagener's second addition to Sturgeon Bay, just north of the city. Two large village sites are also found at Little Harbor.

The Indians presumably found this a convenient place of habitation because of its proximity to the waters of both Lake Michigan and Green Bay. When the first settlers came they found a well trodden path leading from the head of Sturgeon Bay to Lake Michigan, just north of the present canal, over which the Indians had portaged their canoes for centuries.

One of the first white men known to have visited Sturgeon Bay was the great missionary and explorer, Father <sup>Jacques</sup> Marquette. On the 25th of October, 1674, a solitary canoe left the majestic waters of the Fox River at a point then known as St. Francis Xavier Mission, at the head of Green Bay. A black-gown with two companions manned the canoe. This priest was Father Marquette, on his last visit to the Illinois Indians, a visit from which he never returned. On the 27th of October he landed at a point where there was an Indian village (probably Circle Ridge) and remained there three days instructing and ministering to the Indians. Proceeding on their journey they carried their canoes across the portage to Lake Michigan, surveying, as it were, the ship canal of two centuries later.

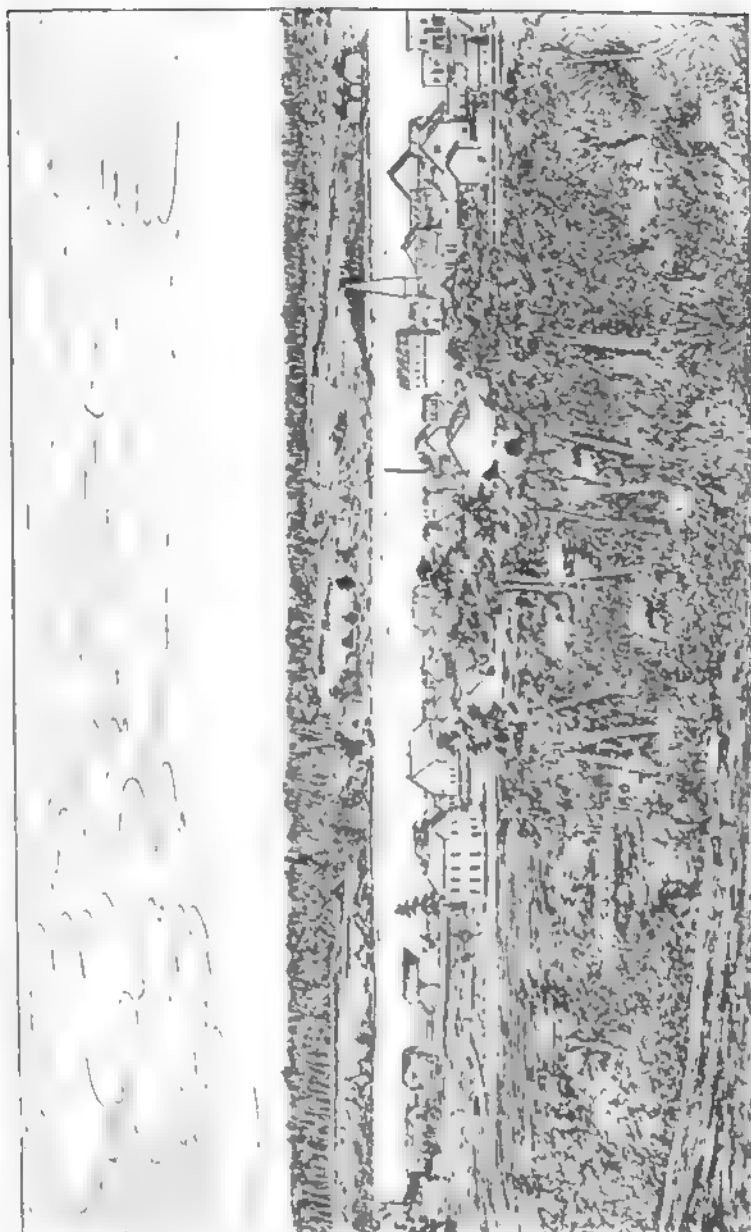
As far back as records go Sturgeon Bay has gone by the name it still bears. The first to mention the name is Father Allouez, the first missionary of the West. Late in October, 1676, he set out from his mission at De Pere to visit the Illinois Indians. Cold weather overtook him and he was obliged to winter with some Potawatami Indians, who lived on or near Sturgeon Bay. March 29, 1677, he embarked in a canoe, assisted by two men, on Lake Michigan. This he reached by way of the Sturgeon Bay portage (La Portage des Eturgeons), where now is the canal.<sup>1</sup>

This portage was also much used by early French, English and American fur traders in conveying their supplies from Green Bay to Milwaukee and intermediate points. It is probable that some of them also used Sturgeon Bay as a temporary trading post. In a letter dated May 18, 1825, H. B. McGulpin, a fur

<sup>1</sup> Jesuit Relations, LX.







STURGEON BAY IN 1873  
Drawn from a photograph furnished by Frank Long



trader, mentions Sturgeon Bay in a way which suggests that it may have been one of his regular stations.<sup>2</sup> After him a young trader by the name of Joshua Johnson Boyd made periodical visits there, on which occasions the Indians used to gather to barter and celebrate. He was the son of Colonel Boyd, U. S. Indian Agent at Green Bay. Colonel Boyd was a very capable and distinguished gentleman who had been prominently employed by the Government abroad and was a brother-in-law of President John Quincy Adams. In 1882 his son Joshua was killed at Sturgeon Bay by an Indian for refusing him credit.

It was this dangerous business that Increase Claflin assumed when he in 1833 moved from Green Bay. He changed the location of the trading post from Sturgeon Bay to Little Sturgeon and for many years Sturgeon Bay lay silent and deserted save for its dusky nomads.

Among the early settlers on Rock Island and St. Martin's Island was Oliver Perry Graham. He had a sail boat, did quite a little traveling disposing of his fish, and was also associated with the fur traders in bartering with the Indians. In this manner he became a well-known figure among the Indians, who greatly respected him because of his powerful physique and commanding presence, and he was elected chief both by the Menominees and Chippewas.

On these travels he had several times visited Sturgeon Bay. He was greatly impressed by the grand forest of pine which lined the shores of the bay, particularly where now the City of Sturgeon Bay is built. He felt convinced that soon the tide of empire rolling westward would need this timber for building material, and profitable business would be opened for a sawmill. Accordingly on August 14, 1849, he entered a tract of land now included in the business section of the city and in 1850 erected the first house of the future city. This stood a little southwest of where Vendome Park now lies.

Sturgeon Bay at that time was one grand forest of pine. From the cove to the brewery, from the bridge to the courthouse and eastward for miles was a forest of tall, bulky columns of pine rearing their tops a hundred feet in the air. Where now the business houses line Cedar Street, the ground stretched smooth and soft, covered with pine needles and always shaded by the green pine.

For a year Graham dwelt here alone with his family, a hermit in a wilderness of pine. His nearest neighbor was David Greenwood, who lived on the Sawyer side of the bay. There was also Peter Sherwood, a quiet, genial old man, who lived on Sherwood's Point, about six miles down the bay.<sup>3</sup> A half-mile south of him at the head of Sawyer Harbor lived Frank Sawyer, an Indian trader and trapper who had just located there. Seven miles farther west Robert Stephenson, another Indian trader, lived at Little Sturgeon, while far to the northward, at Fish Creek, Increase Claflin held undisputed sway.

It was not long, however, before Graham got more neighbors. One morning in the fall of 1851 he saw a sailboat come gently floating up the bay and land at his house. It contained Rev. A. M. Iverson, who with two representatives of his congregation in Fort Howard, were seeking suitable Government land to form a colony. This Moravian congregation of about twenty Norwegian families had

<sup>2</sup> Wisconsin Historical Society Collections, XX, page 377.

<sup>3</sup> Peter Sherwood was a stepfather of John Boone of Rock Island, whose mother he married about 1840.



for some time been buffeted about in great hardships. A few years previously its members had left Norway partly because of economic reasons and partly because of religious pressure. They had been among the pioneers of "Walker's Point" in Milwaukee and there struggled under the handicap of strangers in a strange land unable to speak its language. In Milwaukee a Norwegian nobleman of immense wealth had come to them unexpectedly like an angel from heaven and volunteered to buy lands for them all. With joy they had followed him across the Wisconsin wilderness to Fort Howard, where the colony had been established. Unforeseen difficulties, however, had arisen, and now they were left more destitute than ever in the little Village of Fort Howard, without work, money or lands.<sup>4</sup> Now, weary with wandering, their committee had reached Sturgeon Bay to see if here, beyond the pale of civilization, lands could be obtained where they could settle and dwell in peace.

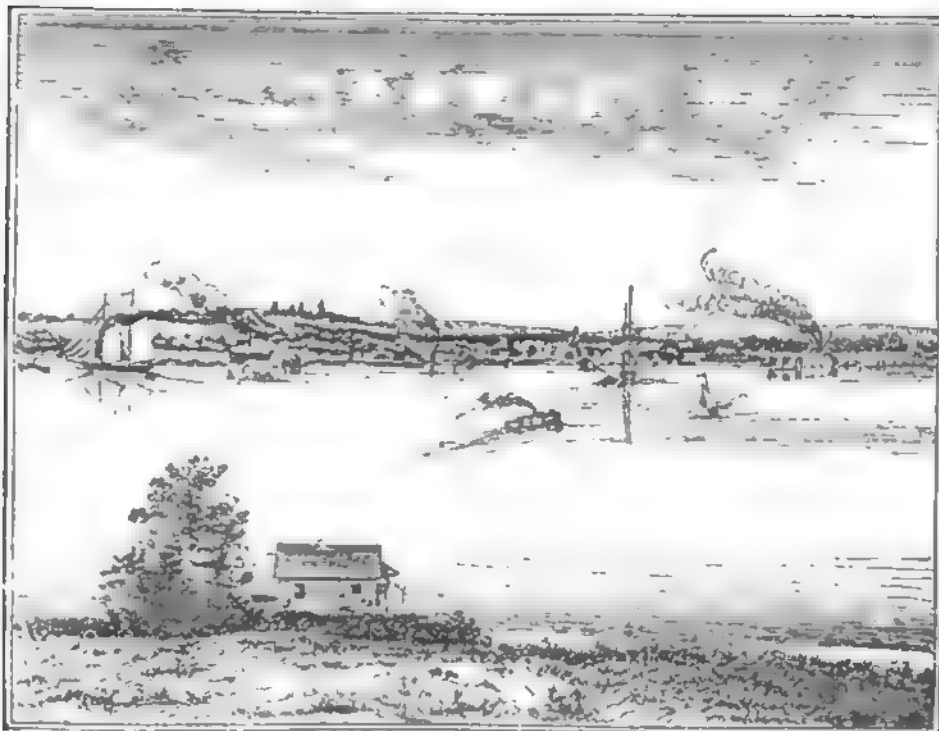
At Sturgeon Bay practically all the land was still unpre-empted. However, that forest of pine which had prompted Graham to settle there discouraged Reverend Iverson from doing so. He was of the opinion that evergreens grew only on poor soil, and as they wished to form a farming community he felt it would be a big mistake to locate here. He returned to Fort Howard with his committee and strongly advised against settling at Sturgeon Bay. The greater part of his congregation accepted his advice and later moved with him to Ephraim. A few, however, were impatient of further investigation and believed it more important to obtain homes at once. These were Salvi Salvesson (Solway), Anthoni Thompson, Louis Klinkenberg, H. P. Hanson and Ole Falk, Melchior Jacobs, Christian Knudson, E. Rasmussen, Nels Torstenson and Philip Jacobs. Of these Salvesson settled near the later city in 1851, on the spot later occupied by the dwelling of Leidiger Bros. The others moved up in 1852 and settled along the shore, Torstenson and Philip Jacobs taking land on the Sawyer side.

For awhile it looked as if the whole Moravian congregation might settle at Sturgeon Bay after all. A wealthy Moravian in New York City by the name of Clark heard of the hardships of the little wandering congregation and offered to loan them money to buy land. With great anticipation they obtained Mr. Graham's aid and selected 1,200 acres of land for the colony at Sturgeon Bay. Mr. Clark, however, suddenly withdrew his offer and their hopes were dashed to the ground. With more chastened expectations they now entered 160 acres of additional land and invited their brethren in Fort Howard to join them. Before they could pay anything down on the land they learned that their claim had been jumped by a Mr. Lyman Bradley.

This Mr. Bradley was a prospective lumberman who with David S. Crandall came from Lockport, N. Y., in the spring of 1852. They went into partnership under the name of Crandall & Bradley, and bought many hundred acres of pine lands. Most of these entries are dated September 11, 1852. Next spring they brought several men with them from Lockport to build a mill. L. R. McLachlan was foreman. Under his supervision the mill was completed in October, 1853, and at once began to saw lumber. This was known as "the lower mill" and occupied the site of the Pankratz mill. Mr. Jesse Kimber, an old settler who began work

<sup>4</sup> See the chapter on Ephraim.





STURGEON BAY IN THE '70s





in this mill when it opened for business, thus describes this first beginning of Sturgeon Bay's business.

"I came to Sturgeon Bay from Lockport, N. Y., to work for Crandall & Bradley in their sawmill, which they had built that season. There were but few settlers here then, and this was an unbroken wilderness. We cut the pine trees on the bank of the Little Lake—then known as Bradley's Lake—but we were all green as to handling saw logs, and it was slow work \* \* \* Little Lake was frozen over on the morning of November 5, 1853, and we had some rare sport killing bass and pickerel by striking on the ice over them, and then hooking them out with a piece of wire bent in the shape of a hook. In a day or two the weather got warmer, and the ice all melted, and we had no more snow until Christmas week, when it shut up for the winter. About New Year's the snow began to fall, and for forty days we never saw the sun; but we had the most beautiful nights I ever saw. It snowed every day, and by the first of March we had  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet of snow on the level in the woods \* \* \* About the month of February the Bradley mill changed hands, and D. H. Burtis came here and took possession, and the mill company was known as Burtis & Works—the property being put into their hands to await the issue of a law suit then pending in the courts of Niagara County, N. Y. In August, 1854, Bradley came here and paid off all the men, and Works gave up the property to the old firm of Crandall & Bradley, and matters went on smoothly for awhile.

"But owing to Mr. Bradley's inexperience in lumbering, he failed to make much out of it, and in the crash of 1857, they went down with lots of others \* \* \* After Burtis & Works gave up the Bradley property, Burtis built what was known as the 'middle mill,' and commenced to manufacture lumber, but failed and returned to his old home at Lockport, N. Y. \* \* \* In early days there was no aristocracy—all were alike, and we enjoyed ourselves hugely—all were bound to enjoy themselves. We could get up a dance in half an hour, have a full house, and keep the party until daylight, and then away to the woods again. \* \* \* I have known the time when we had to make out a meal on potatoes and salt. We used to spear suckers in the creek in the spring, and then we lived high again. I once heard Bradley remark that he had not a man about him that could get his shirt off, and when asked the reason, he said: 'They had eaten suckers so long that the bones stuck through their skin, and their shirts are fast.'"<sup>5</sup>

The principal reason for the failure of this enterprise is reported to have been the lack of experience and attention to business on the part of the promoters. Crandall and Bradley were both newspaper men but had more hope than knowledge of the lumber business. Bradley had a great slant for law, was a shrewd pettifogger and found much more interest in following anybody's lawsuit than in managing his mill. Crandall was a famous storyteller who is said to have had free transportation whenever he traveled because of his witty stories. While the bosses were off in distant parts storytelling and arguing law, the mill men shifted for themselves in indolence and quarreling and the result was ruin.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>5</sup> Martin's History of Door County, page 34.

<sup>6</sup> Dudley S. Crandall, a son of David S. Crandall, is still living near Sturgeon Bay, at the age of eighty-three, a remarkable example of well preserved physical vigor and mental wit. He came to Sturgeon Bay with his father in 1853, but did not become a permanent resident until 1870. For many years he edited one of the local papers.



In 1854 D. H. Burtis built the second mill in Sturgeon Bay, which was located on the site of Washburn's planing mill. Among the men who came with him were the Schuylers, Henry Schuyler, Sr., and his sons Henry, Fred and Albert. Henry Schuyler, Sr., became the first county surveyor. He had owned and operated mills in New York and had assisted in building "Walk in the Water" and other early boats. In 1844 he built Burtis' mill, then put in new machinery in Bradley's mill and finally was in charge of the construction of Graham's mill. In these jobs he was ably assisted by his son Fred Schuyler, who was also a master mechanic.<sup>7</sup>

Mr. Graham, who was the first to locate at Sturgeon Bay, was the last to build his mill. This was just east of the Reynolds Preserving Co. plant and was erected by Fred Schuyler, A. W. Lawrence and others in July, 1855. While Mr. Graham's mill was the last of the three to start operation he had accumulated the greatest amount of timber lands. Having unbounded faith in the future of the town which he had founded, he invested all his means in timber lands. He borrowed from his friends and kindred and bought more. He mortgaged all he had and with the proceeds increased his holdings. Finally he had 4,000 acres of pine lands near Sturgeon Bay. Then, shortly after the whirring saws had begun to cleave the big pine logs in his trim little mill and success seemed near, the panic of 1857 laid its blighting hands on nearly all sawmills. The price of lumber went down so low it did not pay for the transportation. Like the two other mills in the village, he, too, failed in business. Sturgeon Bay for a time was a dreary monument of disappointed hopes for practically every man in the village lost a large amount in wages due from the mills, varying from twenty-five to five hundred dollars.

The methods of handling the logs and lumber in vogue by these early mill companies seem rather crude when viewed in the light of later efficiency. The pine was cut—none less than ten inches in diameter—with axes. Only logs free from limbs were used. The balance of the tree was left to obstruct the ground. The big angular cuts of the axemen and the rejected tops caused a loss in lumber which would pay a modern mill's operating expenses. The logging camps were at various points a mile or two from shore and banking grounds were located at three or four different points between the present city and the mouth of the bay. From these points booms were made up and most of the logs reached the mill by water.

As soon as the ice left the bay the rafting crew would set out to get the logs from below up to the mills. This was very slow work and as hard as it was tedious. A scow about twenty feet long by eight or ten feet wide was rigged with a windlass. To this a rope four or five hundred feet long was attached. After the logs had been put into a raft the boat was pulled out into the bay by means of oars, and when the length of the rope was reached the anchor in the bow of the scow was dropped and the work of winding up began. This would

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<sup>7</sup> Fred Schuyler, who is still a hale and hearty resident of the city at the age of eighty-five, is a very well known character of the county, stocked with all sorts of whimsical recollections of the early days. "I was hired to come to Sturgeon Bay and stay thirty days," he tells, "and I am here yet." Goodnatured but rough in speech, unassuming and quaint, he is a rare type of an old pioneer. The following story is entirely characteristic of him: Once he doctored a sick horse for Rev. Samuel Groenfeldt. When the matter was disposed of he was asked for the bill. "Oh, nothing," he replied, "you can preach my funeral sermon to pay for it, but you must not tell any lies. But," he added meditatively, "you must not tell the truth either, for that would be a d—d sight worse!"





HENRY SCHUYLER, Sr.



probably require half an hour on an average if the weather was favorable. As some of the roll-ways were about five miles from the mill it took a long time for a raft to reach the mill after getting started. Sometimes it would require from twenty-four to thirty-six hours to take a raft of about one hundred logs from the mouth of the bay to the Graham sawmill, and the men would be completely whipped out by the long and heavy pull. A raft of 100,000 feet was considered a big one, and the rafting boss was complimented very highly for being able to handle such a large lot of timber.

After trying the scow and windlass for a few seasons, the mills began to use horses for towing. A span was hitched to the rope, and by following the shore fairly good time was made with an ordinary raft. The driver was mounted on the back of one of the animals, and often the horses were in water up to their backs. The driver was compelled to hang on, and it was not an unusual thing for him to be swept off by some overhanging tree or limb. When they came to where the shore was bold and the water deep the horses would have to swim until they could touch bottom again. Three and four men were required to keep the raft from going ashore, and when the wind blew heavily toward the land this was an utter impossibility. In such an emergency the raft would have to remain on the beach until the wind went down.

The first of these methods was also employed by many captains to take their vessels up the bay in case of a head wind. A small anchor was placed in the yawl boat and taken perhaps a hundred fathoms ahead and thrown overboard. A turn was taken around the windlass on deck and the ship was warped along until the kedge anchor tripped. One of the big anchors was then dropped to hold the vessel in position until the former operation could be repeated. It sometimes took a week to kedge a large vessel from the mouth of the bay to Graham's or Schjoth's dock.

The first village plat of Sturgeon Bay was made and recorded August 10, 1855. The proprietor was Robert Graham, a brother of Oliver P. Graham. It embraced several blocks of land bounded by Spruce and Church streets. The name of the village was Graham, by which name the later City of Sturgeon Bay was known for several years. This was the second platted village in the county, the Village of Ephraim having been platted in 1853. The village plat of Ephraim, however, was not recorded until 1859.

As all three of the mills by this time (August, 1855) were running, there was quite a population in the future city. About twenty to forty men worked at each mill—the oldest, Crandall & Bradley's, being a little the largest—making a total population of about two hundred people, of which a little more than half were floating mill hands. In November of that year occurred an election for Governor of the state, which is the first election on record held in Sturgeon Bay or Door County. The manner in which this election was conducted was unique but very effective and is well worth relating.

On that memorable election day a group of patriotic plank pushers were sitting around the stove of the boarding house of Graham's mill after dinner. The merits of the two candidates—Barstow, democrat, and Bashford, republican—were discussed. Barstow was candidate for re-election and had a powerful state machine behind him. The spokesman, however, was a staunch republican and made it clear that the salvation of all depended on the election of Bashford. In order to do what they could to save the state from damnation it was enthusiastically decided to con-



stitute themselves into a board of election. This was done and each man present was required to vote a straight Bashford ticket. Word was sent to the other mills that an election was in progress at the upper mill and all were urged to present themselves. Meanwhile the board of election sat in patriotic dignity awaiting the voters. Those sordid savages of the other mills seemed, however, more interested in ripping logs than in saving the nation. Seeing the mountain would not come to Mahomet, Mahomet decided to go to the mountain. Taking the ballot box with them the board of election sallied forth and invaded the middle mill. Here, amid the flying sawdust, it was explained to the Canadians, half-breeds and Irishmen working there that it was a guarantee of their bread and butter to drop a slip in the box bearing the name of Coles Bashford. This was cheerfully complied with. Another halt was made in the snug furnace room of the lower mill and forty more republican votes were garnered in. The election board then went out into the highways and byways of the new metropolis—that is, along the water front and around the plank piles, and every person wearing trousers was required to drop the right kind of slip into the box. Toward the close of the day the board of election with great magnanimity and to avoid any suggestion of coercion permitted three voters to cast votes for Barstow. The ballot box was then carried back to its home in the dining room of Graham's mill and the votes were conscientiously counted. The result was very gratifying—84 for "the great statesman," Bashford, and 8 for "the low-down demagogue," Barstow. A messenger was subsidized and sent on foot to Green Bay with the election returns. A few weeks later the loyal patriots of Graham were greatly uplifted to learn that Bashford had been elected by a small margin—the state saved from disaster by Graham's (alias Sturgeon Bay's) intelligent and loyal vote!

The population of the little village at this time consisted of wandering mill hands of many nationalities. This is illustrated by the complexion of a court trial which was held about this time. A German named Protepter was tried for an assault with intent to kill. On the jury were three Canadians, three Irishmen, two Americans, one Bavarian, one Portuguese, one Prussian and one half-breed. When the panic of 1857 occurred and the mills shut down, most of these early toilers drifted away to other parts and they played no further part in Door County's history.

Among them, however, were many staunch citizens who stood by the community and later saw it develop into the fair region it is. Among these early fathers of the city who came before the panic were the following, besides those already mentioned:

A. W. and W. B. Lawrence, who came in 1853. They had lived for two years previously on Washington Island, where they had been engaged in fishing. Joseph Lavassor and M. E. Lyman also came that year.

In 1854 came Andrew Nelson, the father of C. L. Nelson; Capt. Jacob Hanson, the father-in-law of the late Y. V. Dreutzer; Soren Peterson; Erik Schjoth; and Joseph Hebert.

In 1855 came Andrew Peterson, the grandfather of H. L. Peterson. He settled on a farm south of Sturgeon Bay. In this year, too, came Joseph Harris, Sr., who later started the first newspaper and made himself greatly useful to Door County in many ways. J. T. Wright, Robert Noble, Albert G. Warren,



VIEW OF STURGEON BAY IN 1883



W. H. Warren, Geo. H. Thorpe, Iver Nelson, Hans Hanson, Henry C. Knudson and Elijah and Nelson Fuller also took up their homes here this year.

In 1856 came John Long, Joseph Colignon and Chris. and E. C. Daniels.

In 1857 came David Houle, who started the Cedar Street house where now is the People's Store. David Houle's father, Joseph Houle, was a very early resident of Wisconsin, settling south of De Pere about 1820. He died about 1880 at the age of 114 years. He was a man of most remarkable vitality and endurance. One week before he died at the age of 114 years he walked to Green Bay, a distance of fourteen miles. In his eighty-fourth year he walked from Green Bay to Shawano, a distance of thirty-six miles as the crow flies, carrying a hundred-pound sack of flour, twenty-eight pounds of pork, some tea and coffee and a jug of whiskey. This was in 1850, when there were only rough blazed trails to follow through the unsettled wilderness. He had sixteen children. His son David is a chip of the old block. He is still, at the age of eighty-six, daily tending his bar. When he was young he was very athletic and a great scrapper. During his first years in Sturgeon Bay he carried the mail to Two Rivers, a distance of sixty-five miles, once a week, for which he received \$10 per month.

When David Houle opened his tavern on Cedar Street, it was not yet cut out. Some of the best timber had been hauled to the mill but the inferior timber with brush piles and huge stumps still littered the ground. His place of business was therefore considered to be quite a long ways out in the woods. However, as it was the first and only place where liquid refreshments of the desired kind could be obtained, the citizens cheerfully straddled the stumps and gathered there for grand pow-wows.

Sturgeon Bay at this time was a very crude place. It really consisted of three little communities about a half-mile apart, having their little jealousies. At each place was a rumbling sawmill spouting forth slabs and sawdust. Near to each mill was an ugly, unpainted boarding house, surrounded by a few very primitive shanties. Far back in the woods, although now included in the city, were the more substantial and neat farmhouses of the early Moravian farmers, mostly Norwegians. Between these scattered settlers no roads had been opened up, only rough trails meandering through the timber. Wild animals were abundant, especially wolves, of which there were thousands. Even bear were very common. One day when Anthoni Thompson and his wife were out on the bay they heard a commotion at their house. They hastened home and found a bear had broken into the pigpen. Just before they arrived the bear attempted to carry the pig off, but their little daughter without thinking of danger had rushed up, giving the bear a blow across the head with a hardwood club. Startled by this sudden attack, the bear dropped the pig and rushed off into the underbrush.

There were up to this time no roads in the county. Sturgeon Bay was separated from Green Bay by a fifty-mile impassable jungle. All travel was on boats or on the ice in wintertime. The Michigan, a steamer plying between Chicago and Buffalo, made occasional stops at Sturgeon Bay in the years 1852, '53, '54 and '55. The Ogontz, plying between Chicago and Green Bay, used to visit the port of Sturgeon Bay in the years 1856, '57 and '58. The Franklin Moore was another craft which used to visit Sturgeon Bay occasionally and unexpectedly. She was a kind of a portable dry goods, groceries and general merchandise store, supplying fishermen and others with tea, coffee, tobacco, whiskey, flour, clothing and other

necessaries of life. Isolated as the village was, it was dependent upon these and other wandering vessels for its supplies, as very little farming was done, the only important crop as yet being potatoes.

The arrival of the steamboat was a picnic for the people, since she brought with her supplies of goods and also the latest news from "America," by which name the pioneers were accustomed to designate the eastern states from which most of them had migrated. When her whistle sounded there was a general rush for the pier by such of the population as were not bedridden, the women, babies and cripples bringing up the rear. These watched the business of unloading cargo and "wooding-up" with lively interest, the boys and men often lending a hand in these operations, being glad of an opportunity to thus exhibit their regard for the link that connected them with civilized mankind.

In November, 1857, the weather suddenly became severely cold and during a heavy northwester the bay was frozen. Not having anticipated so early a stoppage of travel, the village people had not yet obtained their winter supplies, although they expected to receive part of them by the Ogontz on her next trip. The loss of these supplies would be a serious matter to the village, Lyman Bradley alone, whose mill had started up again, having at this time nearly a hundred persons in his employ. A few days later the Ogontz appeared off the mouth of the bay, but not being prepared to plow a channel through the thick ice she made no attempt to reach the village.

It was on a Sunday when the Ogontz hove in sight and a large number of people had gathered on the pier to see her force her way through the ice. For a time there was a period of suspense and indecision, as if the captain of the vessel was in doubt as to what to do. When the vessel finally turned her prow out to sea again and the people saw that they were to be left without any supplies, a wail of anguish arose. They felt like a needy mariner, stranded on a desert island, when he sees the vessel on which he relied for rescue turn away without offering help. Everyone realized that unless supplies were brought to them starvation would be their fate. There were no roads to Green Bay and the ice would not be safe to travel for many weeks.

However, the Ogontz did not mean to leave them utterly destitute. When the captain saw it was impossible to land at Sturgeon Bay, he went to Egg Harbor and landed the supplies there. At that time there was no road further than to Bassford's farm. Beyond that a dense and trackless forest stretched unbroken for thirteen miles to Egg Harbor. What was now to be done?

When Lyman Bradley learned that the supplies were landed in Egg Harbor he swore in his customary vigorous and picturesque style that he would either "find a way or make it." He proceeded to make it. A large gang of choppers began to hew a path northward and in about a week a route was opened to Egg Harbor. It was an exceedingly primitive road, so rough that teams could haul only a few hundred pounds, but it raised the siege and brought the needed supplies to the anxious mill operatives. So slowly did the work of transporting the goods proceed that teams were engaged throughout the entire winter in making the transfer, while the freighting was as costly as it was prolonged.

But those who were not in the employ of the mills did not obtain much relief from these supplies. The Crandall & Bradley Co. had no more than would meet the strictest demands of their employees and therefore refused to sell to outsiders.



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CHARLES SCOFIELD  
First mayor of Sturgeon Bay



Much distress resulted, and if the rations common in many households during that winter and the following spring should today be set before the boarders in an almshouse there would be an instantaneous riot. The usual bill of fare included only potatoes and molasses. A few exceedingly particular persons insisted upon peeling their potatoes but the great majority, being democratic and economical, simply mashed the murphies in their jackets and then poured over them the molasses. Although flour at that time cost but \$6 a barrel, bread was a luxury which some families scarcely saw during the winter. As for cake, that was simply out of the question. Some reckless and improvident housewives, who were so lucky as to obtain a little flour, did go so far as to waste a portion of it in making gingerbread, but society "sat down" upon them so heavily for their wanton extravagance that they dared not repeat the performance. When the ice became passable a limited amount of supplies was brought from Green Bay and for a little while relief was had. But after the ice became unsafe in the spring the privations were greater than ever and the horses belonging to the mill company nearly all died from starvation.

The general distress had the good effect, however, to draw the victims closer together. Like shipwrecked voyagers, they were alike involved in the calamity and bravely endeavored to make the best of the situation. If they could not have a feast they could at least have fun, and they did. Probably the village never before or since witnessed such a jolly, social winter. With feet as light as their stomachs were empty, the people had frequent dancing parties, these festivals taking place successively at various homes, the dancers being occasionally regaled with hemlock and wintergreen tea. Whenever a family was fortunate enough to obtain some food out of the common order, the event was made the occasion of a general "gathering of the clans," who were made partakers of the luxury.

The reopening of navigation was never more anxiously awaited than in the spring of 1858, and Robinson Crusoe did not more joyfully greet the approaching sail that was to deliver him from his island prison than did the people of Sturgeon Bay welcome the first sail that brought them relief in the first week in May. The children of those days are now old men and women, but they will never forget that queer mixture of mirth and misery they experienced during the starvation winter of 1857-8.

The first merchant in Sturgeon Bay was Oliver Perry Graham. He had a store in connection with his boarding house which was closed in 1857 when the panic stopped all business.<sup>9</sup> Shortly afterward David Houle opened up a little stock of merchandise which he sold out in 1860 to Wied & Hoyt. About this time E. T. Schjoth also opened a general store. The business done by these men was small, however, compared to that of F. B. Gardner at Little Sturgeon. As he early put up a very good grist mill, his place of business was the center for most of the buying and the selling in the county for many years.

Sturgeon Bay was the county seat, however, and for this reason most of its people had faith that it would soon develop into a place of great importance. For this reason also Joseph Harris in the spring of 1862 started the Door County Advocate, the first newspaper in the county, which is still being published under

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<sup>9</sup> This store building is now used by D. D. Donovan as a residence. It originally occupied part of the site of the Reynolds Preserving Plant.



the name of the Sturgeon Bay Advocate. The publication of this newspaper was a great boon to the city and the county. It centralized interest in local affairs by furnishing a medium of exchange for news and ideas. Under Mr. Harris' and later Mr. Long's able management it also became an excellent advertisement of the county's resources and brought a great many settlers into the county. Being ably edited from the start it soon achieved a position of great importance, with a large subscription list. This was frequently paid for by cordwood, hay and potatoes, but the publisher adapted himself to local conditions and labored with and for his readers without complaint.

Joseph Harris was the great man of the county in those days. Almost from the first issue of his paper he pointed out the possibilities and great significance of a canal to connect the waters of Green Bay with Lake Michigan. Year after year he untiringly worked for its realization, using a great deal of his time and money to push the project forward amid an unceasing array of obstacles and indifference. Due to his unremitting energy it finally became a reality and Sturgeon Bay became a city, as is told in another chapter.

Mr. Harris was also the first county clerk, county treasurer, and register of deeds in the county, procuring the books of record and getting these three offices in running order. He was also our first state senator. In 1864 while in the Senate he framed the charter of the Sturgeon Bay and Lake Michigan Ship Canal and Harbor Company. Whether it was to give a speech at a gathering at home or a trip to Washington to plead the needs of the county before Congress, Hon. Joseph Harris was the man that could do it.

Among other early celebrities who came at a little later date were the following:

John Garland, who originally settled down on the bay shore in 1853. He was a very popular county clerk for many terms. Garland Street is named after him.

D. A. Reed came in 1860, and was the county's first district attorney. His house still stands adjoining the Union Hotel on the north.

Chas. Scofield came in 1868. For a time he operated one of the largest shingle mills in the county and did not become permanently identified with Sturgeon Bay until about 1880.

John Leathem and Thomas H. Smith are two of the best known business men of the peninsula. They operated several sawmills in different places, finally taking permanent residence in Sturgeon Bay about 1880. The Sturgeon Bay bridge was built by them in 1884.

Judge F. J. Hamilton came to Sturgeon Bay in 1871, and for a number of years was principal of the schools. He later became county judge. O. E. Dreutzer, for many years a lawyer of great prominence also came at this time.

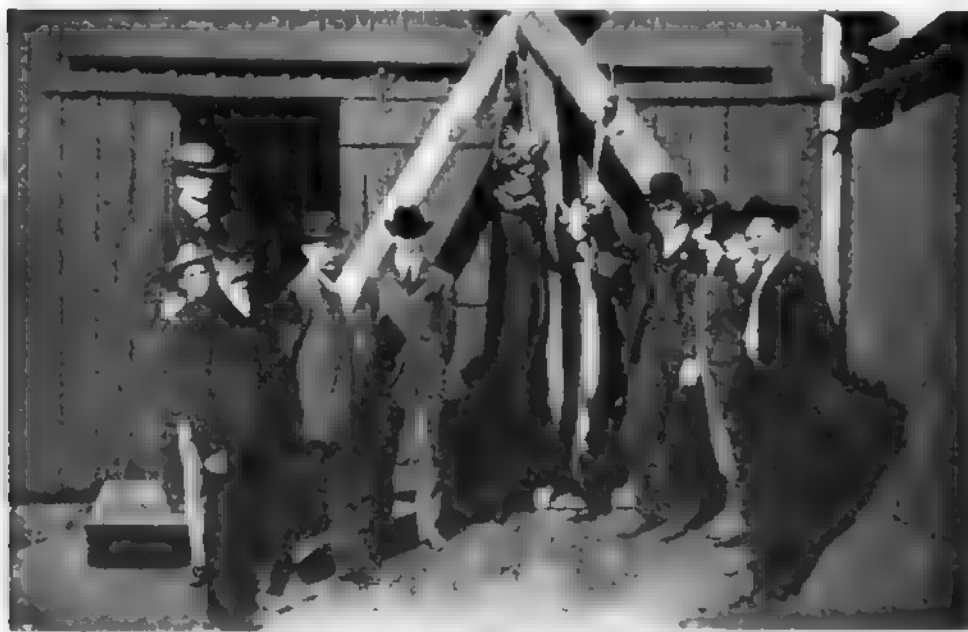
Leroy M. Washburn came in 1870 and entered the mercantile business started by A. W. Lawrence, who later became his father-in-law. The same year also came Archibald McEacham, the first physician to permanently locate in Door County.

N. Arnold Wagener and William Wagener came in 1873. The Wagener family has ever since been prominently connected with the politics of Door County on the democratic side.

Sturgeon Bay in the '60s and '70s was really a very insignificant place. As late as October 22, 1863, Mr. Harris through the Advocate offered to give a lot, 50 by 150, on Main or Cedar streets to any blacksmith who would start a shop in



STATE FISH HATCHERY, STURGEON BAY



THE FISH THAT MADE STURGEON BAY FAMOUS



Sturgeon Bay. He was evidently not very hopeful of any one taking immediate advantage of his offer, for he adds: "This shall be a standing offer for the next six months."

There was no physician in the village (or in the county), but in 1862 there was a standing advertisement from one Lottie Cahoon stating that although Sturgeon Bay was a very healthy location it was not entirely exempt from disease and she had therefore "given considerable attention to the study of homeopathy, first in the family and later among others, and invariably with success. So many are applying for advice that I have sent for a fresh supply of medicine and have decided to charge two shillings for a prescription. To those unable to pay it is gratuitous as before." Which must be said to be very generous terms, indeed.

In a later issue there is the joyful announcement of the opening of a drug store in Menominee and complimenting the people of Door County upon the close proximity of such a desirable convenience.

The first church building was started in 1857. A church had this year been started in Ephraim (the first in the county) and the Moravians of Sturgeon Bay now felt that they must do likewise. There was as yet no congregation organized in Sturgeon Bay and as the Moravians there were few in number they invited people of other sects to join with them to build a Union Church. This proposition was accepted by a number of Lutherans, Quakers, Methodists and others. On a certain day in 1857 they met on a lot given by Anthoni Thompson and began to erect a church under Hans P. Hanson's leadership. A foundation was built, trees were felled and the logs were neatly hewed and deftly joined together. When the walls were about four feet high one of the workmen discovered that the laws of Wisconsin required that a church building must be deeded to a certain church organization. A debate now arose as to what church organization should hold the deed. There was as yet no church organized in Sturgeon Bay. The discussion finally got so heated that all the men present picked up their tools and went home. For six years the half-built church stood there neglected, with its rotting piles of big pine logs on one side, a monument of distrust. Finally in the spring of 1862 a Moravian congregation was organized by Rev. A. M. Iverson. By his help legal title was obtained to the church lot and building and in 1863 the church was completed. The original church building started in 1857 is now used as a church parlor and is a part of the present church.

The Methodists were next to organize and build a church. Rev. A. M. Iverson, the county's first pastor, had for some time been conducting English services in Fish Creek. As his friends there were mostly of the Methodist faith, Reverend Fullmer, a Methodist minister, was in 1862 induced to settle there and take up the work that Iverson had begun. Fullmer preached all over the county, but found his best support in Sturgeon Bay. In 1863 a Methodist congregation was organized in Sturgeon Bay and Fullmer began to collect funds for a church. When he shortly afterward removed to other parts "Deacon" Geo. Pinney, who was not ordained but had some ability as a speaker, took charge of the work. About two thousand dollars was collected, and by June 22, 1866, the frame of the church was raised by voluntary labor. This church building is now used for a seed store.

Mr. Pinney was in charge of the church work for some time, but later on difficulties arose and Mr. Pinney was expelled from the church. A very exciting trial followed, both before ecclesiastical and common law tribunals. Mr. Pinney at first

had Dr. E. M. Thorpe, a pettifogger from Fish Creek, as his legal adviser, and for a while had the best of the argument. Later the tide turned.<sup>9</sup>

About the same time as Mr. Pinney took charge of the Methodist Church work he was also, according to published advertisements in the Advocate, selling fruit trees. Mr. Pinney owned a tract of land in Ohio which he had never seen. This he traded for a quantity of fruit trees which were shipped to Sturgeon Bay. It was from this lot of trees, the first to be brought into the county, that Robert Laurie and Joseph Zettel, the first fruit growers of the county, in 1866 obtained their stocks. This apple tree business was pushed by Mr. Pinney for some years until it was turned over to Henry Schuyler and Mr. Pinney went into the evergreen nursery business. By 1876 this business had assumed large proportions, Mr. Pinney shipping from four to six million seedlings annually. A. W. Lawrence was associated with him in this business.

Mr. Lawrence and Mr. Pinney were also in partnership in publishing the Expositor, the second newspaper in the county. Its first issue came out October 24, 1878. Between the Expositor and the Advocate there now broke out a bitter warfare of vilification to the great entertainment of the people of the village. This was kept up until Frank Long in 1875 bought the Advocate and put a stop to the fighting.

Besides these church fights and newspaper quarrels there were also other subjects of interest for the people of Sturgeon Bay in the '60s and '70s. Among these may particularly be mentioned hogs, spirits and Indians, which indiscriminately were infesting the village. For a time it was the hogs which claimed most attention. These were permitted to run loose to the great annoyance of those who would rather grow peas than pigs. Finally in 1867 a local ordinance was passed, the hogs were shut up and everybody took new courage. The spirits, however, were not so easily controlled. As early as 1866 spiritualistic seances came into vogue and disentombed spirits were roaming about at any time and place eager to impart immaterial information. With the organization of several religious congregations the excessive "spirituality" gradually found expression along more conventional lines.

In these early days Indians were frequent visitors in the village. They usually came in considerable numbers, begging and bartering and in quest of spirits, but of another kind from those mentioned above. In May, 1876, there was a large concourse of Indians in the village, among them being Pottawatomies, Winnebagos, Chippewas and Sioux. One superannuated warrior, gaudily arrayed in a pair of earrings and one coat sleeve, was circulating a paper with the following appeal to the charitable, prepared for him by the editor of the Advocate (D. S. Crandall) inscribed thereon: "This may certify that the bearer is an aboriginal cuss in whom there is no guile. He never lifted a scalp nor robbed a henroost in daytime. He is the father of some of his children and uses no cologne. He has that noble attribute of his race—an untutored mind. His squaw has gone to the spirit land and he wishes to visit that earthly land of spirits, where trouble is forgotten at the rate of 10 cents a spirit. He respectfully asketh aid of the pale faces. No order for groceries received."

<sup>9</sup> For accounts of these trials see the Door County Advocate, beginning May 26, 1870, and running to February 16, 1871.



PUBLIC LIBRARY, STURGEON BAY



BUSINESS DISTRICT, STURGEON BAY



Up to 1875 Main Street was the principal street of the village. Just north of the present Advocate building, on the same side of the street, still stands one of the oldest landmarks of the city—the Peterson building, built in 1836 and used for a hotel for many years. Just across the street from the Advocate is the site of the first county courthouse. Adjoining this on the southeast was Leidiger's brewery. The courthouse was a two-story building with a basement. The basement was used for a saloon, which was very convenient for the court and jury. However, it was customary for the jury to provide itself with refreshments in another manner. After O. E. Drentzer had harangued the jury into a real bellicose attitude, the jury would retire into its sanctum sweating under the collar. A rope would then be dropped to a side door of the brewery and a keg of beer hauled up. After due investigation of the contents of the keg the verdict would be returned.

In this old courthouse whose site is now marked by a big hole in the ground, many famous legal battles of the county have been fought, the narration of which is beyond the province of this account. An amusing incident of those days is, however, not out of place. Once upon a time, shortly before the Fourth of July, old Judge Henry Schuyler was holding court, listening to the evidence prosily presented by D. A. Reed and G. W. Allen. Patrick Ryan and Frank Long passed by and prompted by a desire to inject a little life into the proceedings they threw a large lighted firecracker in through the window. The firecracker fell at the feet of Mr. Reed and exploded at once. Instantly there was a mighty hubbub, with Mr. Reed jumping about in an excited manner yelling, "I am shot! I am shot!" Squire Schuyler, who was no friend of Reed's, pounded the desk, and shouted, "Shut up, you d—d fool! It serves you right. You should have been shot long ago!"<sup>10</sup>

The new courthouse was built in 1878.

Sturgeon Bay was incorporated as a village in the spring of 1874. The first president of the village was John McKinney. As a guide to the position of the men who in those years were most prominent in material things the following list of heaviest taxpayers, January 1, 1878, is interesting:

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<sup>10</sup> D. A. Reed died near Bayfield, Wis., in 1891, and the Kewaunee Enterprise of a near date gives the following obituary of him:

"The other day an old man of three score and ten, with long tangled locks and matted gray beard, was found sitting in a chair in a lonely cabin in the woods near Bayfield, dead. It was the end of one of life's stirring careers. The old man, deserted, alone, rough, uncouth, unlettered, had played an eventful part in life; had sat in Legislatures, plead before courts, held a commission in the army, and had lived beyond the days of his usefulness. He was personally known to hundreds of readers of the Enterprise. That old man was D. A. Reed. Thirty years ago he was a leading politician and lawyer of Northeastern Wisconsin; has twice represented Kewaunee and Door counties in the Legislature, and for many years was prosecuting attorney for Door County. Many anecdotes are told of him savoring of pioneer days in the courtroom and in politics. He was an indefatigable talker. No bill was introduced in the Legislature that escaped the ordeal of his long and dreary oratory. Once, when Gabe Bouck was speaker, a point of order was raised and Bouck's decision was questioned. Reed arose, stroked his long gray beard, and, in a grand, eloquent harangue of an hour's duration sustained the speaker's ruling. At the conclusion of his remarks Bouck said with cutting irony: 'Since listening to the gentleman from Door, I am fully satisfied that I am in error; my decision is reversed.' " Reed was a man fierce and relentless in his enmities, yet withal of a suave and kindly nature. He was one of the characters of the old era."



## HISTORY OF DOOR COUNTY

A. W. Lawrence & Co.....	\$676.38
Scotfield & Co. ....	658.18
Charnley Bros. & Co. ....	815.00
A. W. Lawrence .....	204.51
C. Leonhardt .....	158.38
W. G. McMaster .....	143.72
O. E. Dreutzer .....	84.18
Feldman & Cochems .....	82.20
Doctor McEacham .....	73.84
L. M. Washburn .....	71.26
Henry Hahn .....	69.81
Jacob Noll .....	62.10
A. Thompson .....	62.00
C. A. Masse .....	59.10
John Masse .....	57.00
A. G. Warren .....	57.00
Frank Long .....	54.01
John Leathem .....	53.90
Joseph Lavassor .....	50.29

The village was incorporated as a city in 1883 with three wards. The following is a list of mayors and clerks of the City of Sturgeon Bay, Wis., since April 9, 1883, when the Village of Sturgeon Bay became a city:

Mayor	Clerk	Term of Office
Chas. Scotfield .....	L. M. Sherman .....	1883-1886
Frank Mullen .....	Jacob Dehos .....	1886-1887
Chas. Scotfield .....	Jacob Dehos .....	1887-1888
George Nelson .....	Jacob Dehos .....	1888-1889
George Nelson .....	H. P. Hendricks .....	1889-1890
James Keogh, Jr. ....	Christ Daniels .....	1890-1891
James Keogh, Jr. ....	H. P. Hendricks .....	1891-1892
	L. L. Bacchus .....	1891-1892
James Keogh, Jr. ....	F. J. Hamilton .....	1892-1893
Louis Reichel .....	A. N. Dier, resigned .....	1893-1894
	F. J. Hamilton .....	1893-1894
E. S. Minor .....	F. J. Hamilton .....	1894-1895
George Nelson .....	Louis Reichel .....	1895-1896
George Nelson .....	Louis Reichel .....	1896-1897
Chas. Greisen .....	Jacob Dehos .....	1897-1898
George Nelson .....	M. V. Cochems .....	1898-1899
H. C. Scotfield .....	Jacob Dehos .....	1899-1900
H. C. Scotfield .....	Jacob Dehos .....	1900-1901
Joseph Harris .....	N. C. Garland .....	1901-1902

## TWO YEAR TERM

Joseph Harris .....	N. C. Garland .....	1902-1904
Wm. R. Hay .....	Henry Leonhardt .....	1904-1906
Joseph Wolter .....	Henry Leonhardt .....	1906-1914
N. C. Garland .....	J. C. Langemak .....	1914-to date



HOME OF JOSEPH HARRIS, SR., STURGEON BAY  
Built in 1876. First brick house in Door County



The fourth ward of Sturgeon Bay, commonly called Sawyer, was added in 1891. Sawyer was founded by Hon. Joseph Harris who platted the village in 1874 and called it Bay View. The same year he started to build a summer hotel in the new village. The plans called for a main building measuring 40 by 40 with a wing of 20 by 30 feet. It was to be surrounded by a park of twelve acres. Distractions of various kinds, however, did not permit Mr. Harris to carry out his plans.

By help of a persistent advertising campaign this favorable location soon developed into a large village. A ferry had already been established in 1860 by E. S. Fuller. When Mr. Fuller's charter expired in 1863 Mr. E. T. Schjoth obtained a charter for a ferry which he operated for ten years. In 1878 Robert Noble established a steam ferry which did good service for many years. In 1883 he was succeeded by Dr. A. McEacham who operated the ferry until the toll bridge was built. Leatham & Smith in 1886 obtained a charter to operate a toll bridge for twenty-five years and the bridge was completed in 1887.

Beginning in 1869, numerous attempts were made to build a railroad to Sturgeon Bay. However, the vessel interests were determined to keep Sturgeon Bay and Door County an island dependent on their uncertain mercy. However, in 1891 their opposition was finally conquered and three years later the railroad was in operation. Sturgeon Bay's isolation and pioneer days were at last passed.

## CHAPTER XXXI

### SEVASTOPOL

The banner town in Door County is undoubtedly Sevastopol. Here the land is deep, rich and gently rolling, excellently suited to agriculture. Here are many of Wisconsin's largest and best managed orchards. Here the improvements are substantial and the highways excellent. Not many towns in Wisconsin are superior to Sevastopol for farming operations or results.

But not all the land in Sevastopol is suited to agriculture. Along Lake Michigan is a broad belt of low and indifferent land which has not yet been put to any important use. Here, however, is where Sevastopol's first permanent settler made his home.

Up in the northeastern corner of the town lies a large and beautiful lake, known as Clarks Lake. The northern part of the lake extends into the Town of Jacksonport. Between this lake and Lake Michigan lies a tract of inferior low-lying land. Here, on the shore of Lake Michigan he settled and developed a very interesting fishing station.

John P. Clark was one of the first white settlers on this peninsula, having located here in 1838. He had previously been fishing at Two Rivers and while so engaged was informed by an Indian that there was a better place farther down the shore. Taking his informant with him Mr. Clark visited the spot which is now known as White Fish Bay, and finding that he had been correctly informed he determined to locate there. In order to have plenty of elbow room, and to control the grounds he bought large tracts of land along the shores, his purchases ultimately amounting to about twenty-five hundred acres and extending along the beach for nine miles. In 1842 he was accompanied to the fishing ground by his brother, Isaac S. Clark, who continued to take an active interest in the business from that time. They landed at Two Rivers in April of that year from the steamer Cleveland, which was running between Buffalo and Chicago. At that time and for some years following they began to fish at Two Rivers in April and there remained until August, when they removed to White Fish Bay where they operated for the remainder of the season, which closed about the middle of November, after which they returned to Detroit for the winter. Fishing was then done entirely with seines, which varied in length from 40 to 160 rods, or half a mile in length, though nets of medium size were found to work most satisfactorily. They were carried into the lake and set from the boats, then afterward hauled in by windlasses on the beach, the operation taking several hours. Large hauls were frequently made, a single sweep of a net having on one occasion brought in 175 barrels of 200 pounds each, all fish being at that time put up in full barrels. Although the seines brought in every kind of fish, none was picked out but whitefish, all others being hauled to a field for use as fertilizer. Sometimes the oil was extracted for tanning and other purposes, it being worth \$1 a gallon. Most of this work



VIEW OF UNION STREET, SAWYER



was done by Indians, two or three hundred of whom assembled at the bay to manufacture oil, in the fishing season, the proceeds of which they spent for whiskey in order that they might get drunk "just like the white man." The Messrs. Clark employed from thirty to forty fishermen and several coopers, and their annual catch at Two Rivers and White Fish Bay was from fifteen hundred to two thousand barrels. The schooner *Gaselle*, owned by John P. Clark, was engaged in carrying the fish to Cleveland where most of them were sold, the price in 1838, and for several years afterwards, being \$12 per barrel. The use of seines continued until within the past fifteen or twenty years, when they were discarded and pond nets used in their stead, these being found much more economical to use, while the hauls made in them were as large as had previously come from the seines.

When Mr. Clark began operations in this region there were but few white persons in Door County. Excepting Indians, Mr. Clark's only neighbors were wild animals, and of these the woods were full. The howling of wolves was heard every night, and the occasional loss of a pig or a calf served to keep the colony in a state of pleasurable excitement, conjecturing that when the domestic animals were consumed the wolves might insist upon having fresh baby for supper every evening. Deer and bears were scarcely less abundant than wolves. The refuse fish carried to the field attracted the bears, and as many as eight were at one time seen engaged in getting a square meal from a pile of offal. As usual when the Indians come in contact with the whites they rapidly deteriorated. Civilization and shotgun whiskey were altogether too much for the constitution of the red men. In addition to the meanest kind of fire water the whites brought with them the smallpox and cholera, while dissipation caused the hitherto rugged natives to become a prey to lung diseases. About 1860 an Indian named Nimniquette camped with his family on the north point of White Fish Bay during the fishing season, himself and many others of the tribe having come on one of their annual oil making expeditions. Nimniquette was afflicted with consumption, which had reduced him to a mere skeleton. He died a short time after his arrival, and the burial ground of the tribe, being at Sand Bay, south of Kewaunee, his friends applied to Mr. Clark for the use of a boat in which to convey the remains to the cemetery. Just as the party was ready to leave a violent storm arose and continued for several days. Before it abated one of the fishermen happened to visit the camp and was horrified by the discovery that the Indians were smoke-drying the dead man. Being otherwise unable to preserve the dead man until it could be transported to its destination, they had enclosed it in a box and were treating it as though it were a sugar-cured ham. When the funeral party was ready to start, the lamented "stiff" was so thoroughly dried that he could safely be warranted to keep in any climate until the Angel Gabriel summons mankind to come to judgment.

Nothing now remains to mark Clark's fishing station. The quaint old houses—some of them built without a single nail or piece of iron in them—have disappeared, the surging waves have beaten the piers to pieces and the forest growth has conquered the clearings. The recollections of this interesting and long established business are now only a vague and fleeting memory.

More than ten miles away, in the extreme western part of the town, on the shore of Green Bay, Mr. Clark had his nearest neighbor. This was Mil McMullen, a fisherman like Clark. It is likely, however, that Mr. Clark never met his neighbor and fellow townsman as they were separated by a trackless forest of ten



miles of huge trees by land and by a journey of 100 miles around "the Door" by water.

It was this huge forest of ancient growth that the farmers had to conquer before they could make Sevastopol the land of milk and honey it is today.

When the Norwegian Moravians of Fort Howard moved to Sturgeon Bay in 1852 four of them settled a few miles north of the future city in the Town of Sevastopol near the mouth of Sturgeon Bay. These four were H. P. and Jacob Hanson, Louis Klinkenberg and Salvi Salvison. The next year they were joined by John and Thomas Garland.

John Garland had been a sea captain and was of a roving, romantic disposition. He came from Canada and knew nothing of the West but what the interesting curves on the chart told him. Feeling the call of the wild he loaded his possessions, including Brussels carpets and ornate china, into a boat and sailed for the setting sun. When he arrived at the mouth of Sturgeon Bay he thought nature had created such a perfect picture that a lovelier scene was not to be found. He pitched his habitation on the spot now occupied by Dudley S. Crandall's house and built a pier. He felt sure that a great port would here be developed as a result of the Buffalo trade.

The next year, 1854, the little settlement at the mouth of the bay was augmented by the arrival of Alexander and Robert Laurie. They came in a hooker from Buffalo "looking for a place where there was no fever and ague." They found it at the mouth of Sturgeon Bay. From the year of their arrival the Lauries have been prominently identified with the history of the county. They built some of the earliest vessels that floated on Green Bay and were leaders in almost every enterprise. Alexander Laurie was drowned in a storm on Green Bay in 1862 but Robert Laurie, the father of the present county highway commissioner, John M. Laurie, lived to attain a ripe age. He had in his youth been a salt water sailor, visiting many strange ports and heathen lands. His wife had brought with her into the wilderness many old files of the London Illustrated Weekly. In the evenings it was quite common for the neighbors to gather in the Laurie home where Mrs. Laurie would read of the manners and customs of the dusky denizens of the Orient, while Robert Laurie would sandwich in personal observations from the same ports. In this manner the evenings were most enjoyably spent by many of the old pioneers of Sturgeon Bay and Sevastopol. When the county board in 1859 set off the Town of Sevastopol the board gave it the name of Laurieville in honor of the Lauries. The Germans of the eastern part of the town were not consulted in this, however, and the name was later changed to its present non-descript appellation.

So far the history of the Town of Sevastopol has dealt only with men who settled on the shore, whose principal industry for many years was fishing or sailing, with whom farming was a minor side line. In 1856, however, we come to the men who felled Sevastopol's great forest and converted the land into the rare farming tract it now is. About the first of these was George Bassford, ever since a leader in the town, who in 1856 led a party of landseekers from Fond du Lac to Sturgeon Bay. When they reached Green Bay the road came to an end. With remarkable persistence, however, they pushed on through the primeval jungle on foot, wading through swamps, fording creeks and crawling over the innumerable rotting windfalls. After three days and nights during which time they never saw

a human habitation or open clearing they finally emerged on the shores of Sturgeon Bay. They crossed this and pushed on for five miles farther into the primeval woods. Here they finally came to land so excellent, judging by the growth of the timber, the topography of the ground and other indications, that no better could be sought. Bassford bought 240 acres and at once became the biggest owner of lands for farming purposes—a title he has almost always held. With him or about the same time came A. Sacket, the Stephenson brothers and several others who later moved to other parts.

The same year came John Haux (Hocks), Jacob Crass and Joseph Zettel. The first was Dutch, the second German and the third Swiss. Zettel came from Washington Island where he had worked for a year for the Ranney Fish Co. Joseph Zettel deserves particular mention because it was due to him more than to any other man that Door County became famous as a fruit growing section. He started to plant fruit trees in 1862 and by 1890 he had forty-five acres in apples—the largest orchard in the state. In 1893 his display of more than twenty varieties attracted much attention and many premiums at the Worlds Fair in Chicago, his apples keeping their flavor and appearance better than those of any other exhibition. It was due to Mr. Zettel's thirty years' successful experience in growing fruit that A. L. Hatch, Professor Goff and other fruitgrowers a few years later came in and developed that boom in fruit growing which made Door County famous.

In 1857 there was quite a number of pioneers who moved into Sevastopol to clear farms. Most of these were Germans. Among them were Peter J. Simon, Leonard Heldman, Nicholas Armbrust, John Meyer, and Luke Coyne. This year the first Irish families also moved in of which there are now quite a number in the town. These were Henry Martin, Andrew Finnegan and James Gillispie. E. C. Daniels and Alexander Templeton also settled here this year. Of others that came before the war were Anton Long, George King, Dennis Crowley, Richard Ash and James R. Mann.

Sevastopol was organized as a town November 17, 1859. Its first name was Laurieville. This name did not suit the farmers of the town. A special meeting of the new town was held to choose a fitting name for the town. Several names were mentioned without meeting favor. A few years previous to this the events of the Crimean war had been the leading news items in the papers and J. P. Simon had gained a fragmentary knowledge of it. Sebastopol, the great Russian seaport and fortress which had been captured by the French and English in 1856 after a siege of eleven months, loomed big in his mind and he suggested this name as a fitting suggestion of the town's future greatness. This name was adopted. In getting it on the records, however, an error in the spelling occurred and thus we have Sevastopol, a shining example of the pitfalls of little learning. In the same manner the Russian name of Malakoff was later applied to a post-office in the town. The fact that the two postoffices of the town were marked with Russian names on the map of the state made many strangers believe that here was a large Russian settlement. However, it is doubtful if there has ever been a Russian family in the town.

This Peter Joseph Simon was a man who took himself very seriously. In 1868 there was a great landslide of democratic voters to Grant and Simon's vote was also carried along by the flood. He announces his change of heart in matters

political in the Advocate of October 1, 1868, in the following precious announcement:

"Wonder! Wonder!! Wonder!!!

"I, Peter Joseph Simon, originator of the name of the Town of Sevastopol, say: I have lived in said town for nearly twelve years. I was one of the first settlers there. I have been a man who has voted for the democratic ticket for the last twenty-five years. I have also used my influence in favor of the democrats. I therefore, after taking a survey of all matters and circumstances, have thoroughly changed my views upon my former politics. Now and henceforth I am a Grant man! Grant is my man! Hurrah for Grant!

"PETER J. SIMON."

Peter J. Simon was not only an energetic politician; he was also a progressive farmer and had the honor of growing the first bushel of wheat in Sevastopol. In 1873 he gained much deserved credit for purchasing the first mower in use north of Sturgeon Bay. For four years he enjoyed the glory of having brought the first mower into the town. Then his light was eclipsed by Luke Coyne who scraped the bottom of his credit by bringing the first grain binder into the county. This grain binder was the third step in the evolution of the present self binder. First came the reaper which cut the grain and left it in swaths on the fields to be bound into sheaves by slow and painful hand labor. Then came the Marsh Harvester. This reaper elevated the grain and placed it on an elevated table attached to the machine where two men were stationed whose laborious task it was to bind the straw into sheaves as fast as it dropped on the bench. This machine was both a man killer and a horse killer, being very heavy and was early in the '70s superseded by the wire binder. This machine was a great stride forward and bound the sheaves in almost the same manner as the present binders, wires being used, however, for tying the bundles. Soon, however, complaints came in from farmers in districts where the wire binder had been used, telling of thousands of dollars lost by those whose cattle had been killed by the wire swallowed with the straw. Flour mills also refused to grind the wheat cut by a wire binder because small fragments of wire in the grain cut the bolting cloths and also sometimes caused explosions by friction in the machinery.

It was such a binder that Luke Coyne one day in August, 1877, brought into his fields to the great edification of his assembled neighbors. His triumph, however, did not last long. The binder refused to work, he was unable to pay for it and lost the farm. This farm, one of the very best in the county, is now owned by H. Fehl.

Among the famous old pioneers of Sevastopol was also Fred I. Schuyler, one of the first men to come to Sturgeon Bay.

Fred Schuyler is best known for his inimitable story telling and for his infinite love of a good joke. He was in early days much given to playing pranks on others, at which he was quite successful. For instance, once when he was in A. W. Lawrence & Co.'s store he heard L. M. Washburn who was one of the proprietors complain of the large number of rats on the premises and was asked if he could not find some stray cats. Schuyler thought he could and with a twinkle in his eye went on a cat hunt. Finally he had captured about a couple of dozen. These he tied in bags and carried into the store. The bag that he brought in looked



JOSEPH ZETTEL



suspiciously large and heavy but thinking he had brought only a couple of cats Mr. Washburn thankfully told him to let them out. Schuyler did so and instantly there was a mad scramble accompanied by yowls and hisses. The cats frightened out of their wits by their close confinement made for the topmost shelves scattering dishes right and left. Now and then they would come to a tight place and then followed a cat fight with more crashing crockery to the infinite entertainment of the bystanders. Before the cats were evicted they had smashed more than twenty dollars worth of crockery and left a stink that stayed for weeks.

While Schuyler usually got the best of it in a joke, the laugh was once on him with a vengeance. This happened as follows:

For a time, while farming in Sevastopol, he had for neighbor an Irishman by the name of Jack Hurley who lived across the road. The big Yankee and the little Irishman were the best of friends except for occasional spats about trespassing pigs and poultry. One day in Schuyler's absence the Irishman had severely punished an inquisitive pig belonging to Schuyler. When the latter in the evening returned home and learned what had happened he became very angry. Scattering lurid imprecations he strode across the road to pay the Irishman back in kind. The Irishman saw him coming. Just inside of the door was a trapdoor to the cellar. Believing discretion to be better than valor he blew out the light, opened the trap door and awaited developments. Schuyler did not stop to knock but kicked the door open and marched in. The next moment he found himself shooting down the trap door which the Irishman quickly closed and barricaded with cupboards and woodboxes. Then he went to bed. The next morning a truce was patched up entirely satisfactory to the triumphant Irishman who sat upon the trap door while telephoning to Schuyler who during the night had had ample time to cool off while perched upon a bin of potatoes.

When reminded of this adventure Mr. Schuyler reminiscently remarked, "That Jack Hurley was the smartest Irishman that ever crossed the ocean."

In early days Sevastopol had three shipping points which now are used no longer. These were Podunk, Lily Bay and White Fish Bay. Podunk was a small lumbering village in the extreme northwestern corner of the town. Geo. W. Marsh built a pier here about 1867 and got out a great deal of pine. As it was difficult to make a road up and down the limestone ledge behind the banking grounds a slide was constructed down which the logs were sent. Podunk was later called Thayerport in honor of its owner, Capt. C. R. Thayer, and continued to ship cordwood and cedar until the close of the century.

Lily Bay in the southeastern corner of the town became a great shipping point about 1884. Horn and Mashek started the business here which was shortly taken over by V. and C. V. Mashek of Kewaunee. A mill and pier were built, a dam was put across the creek so as to raise the water almost five feet and almost a hundred men were employed in the woods to get out logs and cedar. During the winter of 1885 more than a million feet of logs were banked at the mill and a vast quantity of cedar and cordwood was made ready for shipment. A store, blacksmith shop and a number of dwellings were erected near the mill. The Goodrich boats made regular calls at Lily Bay which for some years served as a lake port for Sturgeon Bay in winter. Of the evidences of its former importance nothing but a desolate, ruined building or two remain. It is literally a hole in the ground, the

strong southeast winds having scooped immense holes in the ground into which the old boarding house threatens to engulf itself at any time.

Lily Bay was originally called St. Joseph in honor of Mr. Joseph, a partner of Wm. H. Horn. When Mr. Joseph retired from the partnership the name was changed to Lily Bay in honor of Mr. Horn's daughter, Lily.

V. and C. V. Mashek became very large owners of Door County lands, buying out the seven miles of water front owned by I. S. Clark besides other lands. At White Fish Bay they also had a mill and a pier owned for a time in company with Wm. H. Horn. This mill was the original Crandall & Bradley Mill, the first one built in Door County. It was moved to White Fish Bay and later to some point in the northern peninsula of Michigan.







JOE A. MARDEN  
The Sage of Shivering Sands

## CHAPTER XXXII

### THE SAGE OF SHIVERING SANDS

✓ About nine miles northeast of Sturgeon Bay, on the shore of Lake Michigan, lies Shivering Sands. It is little known and seldom visited by Door County people. Yet it is a beautiful place, lying on both sides of a little creek or bayou shaded by cool stately evergreens. It received its name of Shivering Sands because the whole sandy shore sometimes seems to shiver or quiver.

In this obscure little paradise it was that Joe Marden, one of the most eccentric characters of Door County, lived and reigned, hunted, trapped and philosophised. He was better known under the name of Joe Wildcat. This name he received because his favorite sport was that of catching wildcats. When he discovered one of these animals in his trap he used to throw an old overcoat over the captive and then immediately fling himself on top. Then followed a tremendous chorus of screechings and cussings accompanied by much clawing and kicking until Joe emerged triumphant and victorious. He was also rather partial to skunks and when he occasionally made his appearance in Sturgeon Bay it was with his long hair braided down his shoulders and surrounded by an odoriferous halo of smells from his captive game. At the time of the Worlds Fair in Chicago he got the notion of sending several crates of live skunks to the exposition. They were safely loaded on a Goodrich passenger vessel, but becoming annoyed at the rolling of the vessel after it had left the harbor they protested by the means given them by nature, whereupon the captain ordered the whole outfit to be thrown overboard to Joe's unspeakable indignation.

Among other distinctions Joe Marden was one of the first in the county to sense its possibilities as a summer resort. The first building erected in Northern Door County intended for the accommodation of summer visitors was built by him. This was an amazing structure, four stories high, built chiefly of slabs and logs picked up on the beach. These were lightly trimmed with an axe and then solidly fastened together with huge spikes, bolts and twisted irons in the fashion of a breakwater crib or mountain castle. It was a most romantic looking building and Castle Romance was the name he gave it. In the first story he kept pigs, in the second geese and in the fourth, ducks. The third story was reserved for the weary summer resorter and was fitted out with a couple of iron beds and a piano. Unfortunately, he had neglected to put a foundation under the structure, whereupon it soon sagged forward toward the bayou as if weary of a useless existence and meditating a plunge beneath the waves with piano and all.

Old Joe was a veteran of the Civil war and was rather vain of his exploits—some real and some imaginary—of those days. At public gatherings in Sturgeon Bay he would frequently mount a box and declaim of the glorious republic and the great war that saved it. On such occasions he would be dressed in knee

breeches, his long slim legs ornamented with many ribbons. The front of his old army jacket would be covered with a profusion of army badges and society pins which he had borrowed, while his long hair reaching half way down his back would be tied with as many gaudy ribbons as a backwoods girl's at her first dance. He was such a sincere, kindly disposed old fellow that no one took any offense at his speeches. Physically strong as he was he was unable to endure tobacco smoke and lost no opportunity for testifying against the terrible evils of nicotine.

In 1882 he decided to travel and started out afoot, which Joe rightly believed was the only way to see the world. Although he had only 50 cents in his pocket when he started he was able to send a few dollars home occasionally to his family. This he did by going from house to house repairing tinware. He was gone for seven months and traveled 2,200 miles throughout the Northwest. Part of this time he wallowed around among North Dakota blizzards encountering snowdrifts so high that he was able to touch the top of the telegraph poles while walking on the huge piles of snow. His conclusions were that the farmers out West had a desperately hard time of it and that "North Dakota was a good country for wild geese."

## CHAPTER XXXIII

### CHAMBERS ISLAND

Door County's history as an organized commonwealth does not run any farther back than the memory of men still living. Yet within that time it has seen a number of settlements and villages start up, prosper for awhile, and then pass away. Among these defunct villages are Little Sturgeon, Foscoro, Clay Banks, Horn's Pier, Lily Bay, Rowley's Bay, Rock Island and Chambers Island. Not so long ago these places teemed with activities of many sorts, the hope and love of the men that inspired them; but are now entirely forgotten and unknown by a large part of our population.

To most people Chambers Island is but vaguely known as a desert island lying far out amid the heaving seas of Green Bay, the largest private estate in Door County, where the deer roam unmolested through the timbered arches. Fifty years ago, however, Chambers Island was not only a settled community, but was an organized town, where the voters once a year gathered in solemn conclave to discuss the needs of roads and bridges, distribute political honors, and grumble at the state tax. It had a full array of town officers with no less than three justices of the peace, three constables, and even a "Sealer of Weights and Measures," for a good measure. It had a public school and a postoffice, farms, orchards, livestock; a sawmill and a ship building plant. It had occasional religious services and a good sewing circle, and tea parties met frequently. The distant little island was in all respects a well ordered community.

Chambers Island received its name in 1816. In August of that year Col. Talbot Chambers was sent to Green Bay (or LaBaye as it was then called) to establish a military post there. The military force accompanying him with their considerable supplies were conveyed to their destination in four large sailing vessels—the first sailing vessels to sail the waters of Green Bay since La Salle lost his Griffin in the waters of Death's Door in 1689. This party named many of the localities visited by them and these names still remain. The largest island in the bay they called Washington Island in honor of the Father of His Country, and also because the flagship of their fleet was named Washington. The next largest was named Chambers Island in honor of the commander of the expedition.

No further mention of Chambers Island is found in any preserved records until about 1850, when the settlement of the island began.

The first permanent settler on the island was a quiet, meditative old Quaker by the name of Stephen A. Hoag. He came there some time before 1849. In that year Nathaniel Brooks, a ship carpenter from Maine, and a man by the name of Snow came from Milwaukee in a small sail boat on a prospecting tour. They found Hoag comfortably quartered on the island but no other settler. Of all the places visited by Brooks Chambers Island pleased him most. When he returned to Milwaukee he described it to his family as "a perfect paradise."

The next year Mr. Brooks moved to Menominee, Mich., which was just then receiving its first settlers. Here he met another ship carpenter by the name of David Clow. Captain Clow had already picked out Chambers Island as an ideal place for boat building, with plenty of all kinds of timber at hand and Government land in abundance. He induced Brooks to become his partner in boat building and they moved onto the island in 1851. They were soon joined by many others, among whom were Lewis and John Williams, Robert Bunton, Simeon Loomier, Stephen Burgess, Joseph Winship, James Ferson and David Rice. Most of these settlers had small clearings and farmed a little in addition to their fishing or boat building. Nearly all of these men lived at the head of the harbor on the north side of the island.

In 1856 it was included in a ministerial circuit embracing Menekaunee, Menominee and Cedar River. Rev. J. W. Donaldson of Menekaunee, who preached the first sermon here, writes the following account of his visit:

"One Saturday I drove on the ice down the bay thirty miles to Little Cedar River. Preached the next day at the mills in the morning. Then ran across the bay twelve miles to Chambers Island and preached there in the evening. There were at that time eight or nine families on the island and every person save one was present at that service, the first, I was told, ever held there, and I think I never spoke to a more attentive audience. On Monday morning from three or four houses came boys and girls bringing live chickens which they piled under my 'jumper' seat, also men brought flour and potatoes, so that my pony had a load behind him. \* \* \*"<sup>1</sup>

In 1857 a mill of good size was built by David Rice, but as the notorious hard times just then came on it was not operated until 1863. After it opened up there were about seventy persons on the island, many of them married men.

Upon petition of the local settlers the county board in November, 1858, set aside Chambers Island as a separate town. The next spring a full set of town officers were elected. Regular meetings and elections were held annually for the next ten years but the records are lost. In 1862 the following town officers were elected: Francis Lanning, chairman; Lewis Williams and Stephen Hoag, supervisors, Robert Bunton, clerk; Lewis Williams, treasurer and assessor; David Clow, Josiah R. Brooks and Francis Lanning, justices of the peace; John R. Williams, Joseph Winship and Stephen Hoag, constables; and Geo. Jones, sealer of weights and measures.

In 1865 a new schoolhouse was built, no date being known when the first schoolhouse was erected. Robert Bunton, who later became the manager of the mill, was the first schoolteacher of which there is any memory. He was succeeded by old Mrs. Jeffcutt of Fish Creek. In 1866 a postoffice was established with John S. Ferson as postmaster.

Owing to internal jealousies the islanders failed to elect town officers in the latter '60s. The county board in November, 1869, attached the island to the Town of Gibraltar. All books and records were turned over to the clerk of the Town of Gibraltar where they later were destroyed by fire.

The Chambers Island lighthouse was built about 1870 and Lewis Williams became keeper. He devoted his spare time to growing strawberries, of which he

<sup>1</sup> From letter printed in Door County Advocate, February 14, 1878.

had a very large plantation. In those days it was considered the greatest sport in Menominee to make picnic parties to Chambers Island and raid Lew Williams' strawberry patch. To which the good natured owner made no objection.

There was at first no store on the island, the people being obliged to go to Green Bay or Milwaukee for supplies or markets. In the early days this was not considered a serious handicap as the people of Sturgeon Bay or Menominee had to do likewise. Later, however, when the peninsula and mainland began to be settled up and easier methods of communication were opened up, the island's isolation continued and increased by comparison, and this was the chief reason for the gradual dismemberment of its colony.

Captain Clow was the first settler to take up land on the island and was in many ways its most notable and interesting personality. He was a burly, good natured, well informed man of immense energy, and due to his adventures, Chambers Island, his home for awhile, had more publicity than any other town in Door County. His first notable exploit was the building of the Sarah Clow, a schooner with a 120-foot keel, measuring 285 tons. This was at the time the largest vessel that had been built in Door County. Up to this time Captain Clow had been engaged in building small sailboats in company with Nathaniel Brooks. He now conceived the idea of building a large freighter. His partner had moved away and the dull times made it impossible to hire men to assist him. But the captain and his wife went to work undaunted. They went out into the woods and felled the trees. Then they rolled the logs up on high trestles and sawed them into boards and planks with a whip saw—Mrs. Clow being perched high up on the log while the captain stood beneath pushing the saw above his head. Then they laid the keel, fashioned the rigs, bent the planking, stepped the masts and sewed and stitched the sails. It was slow work—it took three years—but the two did it all alone, built her entire, from stem to stern and from keel to truck. Iron was so expensive the captain got along almost entirely without irons, pinning her together with wooden trummels.

Finally the great day came in 1862 when she lay all caulked and painted, every rope, hatchway and cupboard in order. Then the honest captain took a bottle of water out of the rain barrel and christened her the Sarah Clow in honor of his excellent helpmeet.

The Sarah Clow went into commission at once and sailed the Great Lakes in quest of fame and fortune. In the first of these aspirations, at least, her owner was successful. In the spring of 1863 Captain Clow had taken a load of wheat to Buffalo. On his return trip he was overtaken by a furious gale when off Point Belle on Lake Erie. As the boat was running very light it was a mere plaything of the storm. The captain saw himself drifting helplessly toward the booming shore and expected every moment to be dashed to pieces on the beach. To his amazement, however, just as the crash was to come, a bigger sea than the others came along and tossed the schooner clear over the beach into a marsh beyond. There she lay on her side in the slimy ooze, her rigging entangled in the brush, safe to be sure from the roaring storm but apparently doomed never again to ride the waves.

This at least was the opinion of the insurance company, whose agent, after visiting her, reported her a total wreck. The insurance money was paid and David Clow purchased the wreck for ten dollars or some small trifle.

Captain Clow stood on the bowsprit ruefully inspecting the plight of his beloved schooner. In retrospect he saw the sturdy oaks and tall waving pines of Chambers Island. With his mind's eye he saw himself and his wife toiling with

dauntless energy and herculean labor to shape those monarchs of the forest into the vessel that lay in the marsh before him. That vessel was to be a monument to all his wife's virtues—to her fortitude in the wilderness, to her endurance in toil, to her youthful grace and her abiding love. Now the vessel lay half submerged in the slime of the swamp, her white decks smeared with black muck. Was this to be the end of her? Was she to lie thus, a hive for hedgehogs and water snakes, soon to be covered with green moss and trailing creepers? No, never! In honor of his wife and bairns at home who thought their father was sailing the great waves, he would make his vessel sail again. Let her meet her doom, if need be, in the roaring floods which was her element, but he would never suffer his vessel to sink out of sight in the mud of a nameless swamp!

There was a shallow bayou or slough in the swamp where the vessel had been tossed. The captain found that after it had meandered through the swamp for some distance the slough communicated with Lake Erie about a half-mile away. At that point, however, it was obstructed by a bar whose dimensions utterly precluded its being crossed by either steam or sail vessel. The captain decided, however, that if he could get his vessel to that point he could cut a canal through the bar and thus slip out into the lake.

To appreciate the difficulty of this task the reader must bear in mind that the projected canal was not only a full half-mile distant, but that the draught of the vessel exceeded by twelve inches the depth of the slough! However, the captain was dauntless. With the help of his crew of six men and some extra men from the interior he got his vessel rounded into the slough. Thereupon he proceeded to heave the vessel for the entire distance by means of her anchors! Some days he accomplished six feet, some ten, some sixty, and on some unlucky days it was found after tugging hard from sun to sun he had gained only a dozen inches.

After this had continued for about a month, Captain Clow had the satisfaction of seeing the bows of his beloved schooner in close contact with the bar. The digging of the canal, although large, proved a light task contrasted with the difficulties over which he had already triumphed. He cut a wide channel three feet deep, then planted his anchors, rove his purchases and waited for an easterly wind to raise the water. The wind came and the schooner glided smoothly and triumphantly out. Owing to the soft, sandy nature of the bottom through which he had worked no injury had been sustained except a broken centerboard.

In 1868 Captain Clow launched another vessel, the *Lewis Day*, named after a prominent Green Bay citizen. This vessel was 155 feet long and was at that time one of the largest vessels on the Great Lakes. Captain Clow was not finicky about the material in his vessels. It is said that almost anything that grew out of the ground would go into them, but once put in the captain made it stay.

After a few years more of storm and stress the captain gave up seafaring and purchased a dairy farm in McHenry County, Illinois. Milking cows, however, was too tame an occupation for an old sailor like him and before long he left the farm to join his sons in battling the storms of the Great Lakes again. In 1892 he was again heard from when he was on a vessel, the *A. P. Nichols*, commanded by his son, which was totally wrecked at night on Pilot Island. The crew, including Capt. David Clow, were rescued in a thrilling manner by the lighthouse keeper, Martin Knudson.<sup>2</sup> He had a large family but none of them are now in Door County.

<sup>2</sup> For an account of this rescue see the chapter on Lighthouses.

Chambers Island has been a good field of operations for lumbermen. The mill of David Rice and most of the island passed to Lewis Day of Green Bay after the war. He cut some of the timber, but soon transferred his rights to Leathem & Smith of Sturgeon Bay. They cut about twenty million feet of pine. They had a large store and warehouse on the east side of the bay which cuts into the island on the north side. The water has washed away the land where this store building stood and Leathem & Smith's big safe is now lying right on the beach near the water.

Toward the close of the century the island was bought by the Wisconsin Chair Co. of Port Washington (F. A. Dennett). They sawed up into lumber on the island about three million feet of oak and about five million feet of hemlock. Part of the hemlock was sold to Pankrats Lumber Co. of Sturgeon Bay when it was sawed.

Chambers Island is at present a forest of young pine except for Mr. Dennett's extensive summer home and grounds on the shore of the beautiful little lake in the northeastern corner of the island. The whole island is a private game preserve of Mr. Dennett's where deer by the hundreds roam in peace.

Chambers Island was in early days a favorite haunt for Indians as many mounds have been found there. When Mr. Dennett was leveling off the ground for tennis courts a large mound was encountered in one corner. Here eight or ten skeletons were found close together in an upright position. Other skeletons have also been found in a large mound close to the cottage. Mr. Dennett writes: "I wrote to Professor Thwaites of the State Historical Association at Madison and he advised me that these were probably Indians that died in the winter time while the ground was frozen and temporarily hung up in trees awaiting the earth conditions so that they might be buried; that they were stood in this position, probably partly under ground and mounds heaped over them."



## CHAPTER XXXIV

### EPHRAIM

When Manitou was young and strong  
(So ancient legends do us tell)  
He set about to make a home,  
Where all good Indians could roam,  
And peacefully in pleasure dwell.

He searched the shores of Michigan  
For every pleasant cove and glen,  
For towering cliffs and headlands bold,  
For islands fair as toys of gold,  
To make a paradise for men.

He brought these treasures to a place—  
Door County is its present name.  
And here he worked with skill and might  
To make a land of keen delight,  
And stocked it well with fish and game.

When all was done he marked one spot,  
Immaculate it seemed to him;  
Where curving shore met limpid sea  
In one full sweep of harmony.  
—What place was this? Ah! Ephraim!

Ephraim is pre-eminent in several other things besides scenery.  
It was the first platted village in the county.  
It had the first public school in the county.  
It had the first organized congregation of white people in the northern half of Wisconsin.

It had the first resident pastor in the county.

It has the first church built in the county, this now being the oldest church in continuous use in the entire northern half of the state.

It is the home of the oldest Moravian congregation in the West.

The history of the Ephraim community starts down in Milwaukee in the year 1849. At that time there was a man by the name of M. Olson from Farsund, Norway, who lived there. There was at that time no Scandinavian congregation in Milwaukee, but this Olson was a splendid singer and used to gather his countrymen together in their homes for common worship. As Mr. Olson was in sympathy with



REV. A. M. IVERSON



the faith and practices of the *Unitas Fratrum*—the United Brethren, or Moravians, as they are commonly called, he wrote to the Moravian organization in Norway to see if a minister of that faith could be found who would come to Milwaukee and take charge of the work which he had started.

There was in the Lutheran Missionary School in Stavanger, Norway, a young man by the name of A. M. Iverson. He was born in Kristiansand, Norway, in 1823 and was now about ready to go to Africa as a missionary for the Lutherans. Having, however, long been in sympathy with the Moravians, he paid his obligations to the missionary school for the instruction he had received, and came to Milwaukee in the spring of 1849.

Mr. Iverson proved himself a diligent and efficient worker. After a few months' work quite a number of deeply religious people were gathered together in close fellowship ready to unite in a Moravian congregation. The headquarters of the denomination at Bethlehem, Pa., were advised of this and they sent one of their elders, a Rev. Mr. Fett, to investigate the matter. Mr. Fett reported most favorably about Mr. Iverson and his converts and permission was given to organize.

The organization of this first Moravian congregation in the West was solemnly effected Monday, October 22, 1849. As this is the organization of the Moravian congregation now at Ephraim a list of the original members is given below, most of whom later moved to Ephraim:

Andrew M. Iverson and his wife Laura.	Ole Björnson.
Andrew Nelson and his wife Anne Christine.	Rasmus W. Hanson.
Zacharias C. Wathne.	Adolph Cedarholm.
Hans Peder Jacobs (Jacobsen).	A. Svendsen.
Thomas (Tønnes) Davidson.	O. Olson.
Henry Johnson.	Martine Hanson.
Zacharias Morbek.	Tobine Jacobi.
A. Oneson.	Stine Marcusson.

These were all grown people. Twelve were Norwegians, four Danes and two Swedes. The following spring, May 7, 1850, Mr. Iverson was ordained in Bethlehem, Pa.

On his return from his ordination Mr. Iverson in New York met a man who was to most powerfully influence the little congregation in Milwaukee and later shape the history of Ephraim. This man was Nils Otto Tank, a capitalist and retired missionary of the Moravian Church, a man of powerful physique, dignified and benign of countenance.

Mr. Tank was one of the most interesting men who have ever come to America and his history reads like a fairy tale. The following is a brief account of this remarkable man:

Nils Otto Tank was born in 1800 on his father's estate near Frederikshald in the southeastern part of Norway. This estate is one of the finest in Norway and full of romantic associations. In its spacious halls royalty has often found a comfortable resting place and many cabals of state have here been constructed and unraveled. It is now the residence of Peter Anker, one of Norway's wealthiest men.

Mr. Tank's father, Carsten Tank, was a man of many varied interests. He was the owner of more than a hundred estates and farms, besides factories, ship-yards, sawmills, and mercantile establishments. His men cut timber in his forests

far up in the hills and his vessels carried it to all parts of the earth. Besides this he was also a statesman of most recognized ability. When Norway in 1814 separated from Denmark and set up an independent monarchy, Carsten Tank was chosen to manage her affairs as prime minister. His official title was chief of the first department of state, but this means precisely the same thing. In other important political activities of the time, Carsten Tank was also a leader.

I have told this much about Carsten Tank that you may understand his attitude toward his son Nils Otto. Prompted by a family pride which was the result of generations of active participation in the forefront of commercial and political activities, it was natural that he should desire this last son of the house of Tank to maintain the traditions of the family and possibly transmit its illustrious name to posterity with new laurels. Norway was just then beginning a new era of national independence and there were great possibilities of gaining commercial power and political prestige. Yes, rumor insists that this old statesman in planning for his son let his thoughts even soar to the topmost pinnacle of national honor, and aspired to place his son upon the throne as king!

In our prosaic times such wild flights of ambition seem wholly impossible, but they were not so a hundred years ago. In those troublous times of Napoleon, when kings forthwith were deposed and commonwealths traded like horses, this was no impossible ambition. Especially was this true in Norway, which had no ancient monarchical line of recognized standing. When Christian Frederik in 1815 abdicated the throne it passed to the senile and childless Carl XIII of Sweden. Soon he would die and then the throne would pass into the keeping of Bernadotte, the French general whom King Carl had hired to fight his battles for him. Why, reasoned Tank, the old statesman, should a foreigner who looked upon warfare and killing as commerce and who sold his military prowess to the highest bidder, why should such a man be more eligible to rule the Norwegian people than one of its own nobles? A sturdy chief of its own soil was what the country needed! And possessing as he did almost unlimited resources he felt that none was nearer to it than his own son Nils Otto.

Such were the plans which prompted father and son when Nils Otto about the year 1818 went abroad. His mission was to visit the leading universities, to be introduced at the different courts of Europe, to mingle in the gay life of foreign capitals and thus secure that worldly wisdom, perfection of polish and, if possible, family alliance with some prince of the blood, which would further his chances to become a member of the royalty.

In all this young Tank proved an apt pupil. After a protracted stay at foreign courts and capitals Nils Otto had acquired most perfect manners and extensive accomplishments and was about to start home to play his part in the intrigues of the court. In the art gallery of the State Historical Society there is a portrait of him painted in Dresden, Germany, in 1820, which gives a good idea of what a winsome, gallant young cavalier he was at the time. Then it happened that far up in the mountains of Saxony, in the little Town of Herrnhut, he looked into the deep, serious and soulful eyes of Marian Frueauff, daughter of a clergyman among the pietistic brethren who inhabited the place.

Forgotten were his father's wise injunctions, the dream of royalty, the pomp and power of court, and worldly honors and ambitions. His love was unconquerable and in a few weeks he journeyed home with his bride.

But his father, the proud old statesman, had forgotten all about love and romance. He saw only his dreams of founding a dynasty shattered by the amours of his son, and lost was his sweetness of life. With scornful upbraidings he gave his son the choice of rejecting his plebeian wife or being himself an outcast.

The old Greeks pictured the god of love as a pretty, dimpled boy whose arrows were intended more for mischief than harm. But that was in the golden age of simplicity.

If we in our complex age should delineate him we would have to make him two-faced like Janus, of which the obverse would show a grim taskmaster compelling the greatest sacrifices of his luckless subjects. The penalties of a heedless marriage are often great, but seldom greater than those which Nils Otto Tank had to pay. Wealth, position, family ties, a father's love; yea, even the possibilities of a kingdom faded away when he married Marian Frucauff.

In addition to marrying out of caste, Mr. Tank at this time also rejected his father's religion and hereafter became an active worker in the humble Moravian faith, first as teacher and later as missionary to the slaves of Surinam, South America. Henceforth for many years we see Otto Tank, who had been reared amid the bon-mots of brilliant salons, humbly and patiently teaching the gospel of salvation to tawny heathen in the distant tropics.

During his student years, young Tank had been much interested in mineralogy, showing considerable promise in this field. In far-away Surinam this scientific knowledge played him a good part, for he was instrumental in discovering the extensive gold fields which later made Guiana's name famous. But the wealth he appears to have gained by this discovery was of little comfort to him, for the deadly climate was too much for his wife, whose remains are buried there. In 1847 he left for Europe.

Tank now lingered for some time in Holland, where in Amsterdam he made the acquaintance of a distinguished clergyman and scholar, the Rev. J. R. Van der Meulen. This gentleman was the descendant of a long line of prosperous art collectors and bibliophiles, and his house was filled with a wonderful collection of antique furniture of most artistic workmanship, choice plate and paintings, rare bric-a-brac, and thousands of volumes of ancient books and manuscripts of inestimable value. Considerable wealth had also come to him through his wife, formerly chief lady-in-waiting at the court of Holland, and daughter of the famous General Baron von Botzelaar, who, in 1797, had repulsed Napoleon at Willemstadt. For this service the baron was munificently rewarded by the crown. In Catherine, the last representative of this distinguished family, Mr. Tank found a congenial companion and she became his wife in 1849, shortly after her father's death. Thus all these Dutch treasures became a part of the Tank household.

As Mr. Tank felt himself looked upon as an outcast by his ultra-aristocratic family and former friends in Norway, he had no desire to return to his native land. Instead he turned with his bride to America, the new land of opportunity and equality, and here in New York he at once met Mr. Iverson. From him he learned that the Moravian faith had made an opening among his countrymen in Milwaukee. He also heard that these people were very poor and longed to obtain farms where they could till the soil as they had been used to in their native land.

These tidings interested Mr. Tank mightily. It is reported that he brought with him \$1,500,000 and he believed he saw the finger of providence indicating the

field for the use of his abilities and means and hastened to obey. He at once offered to go with Mr. Iverson to Milwaukee and there buy land sufficient for the needs of the new congregation. This offer was accepted with tears of joy by Mr. Iverson.

Arrived in Milwaukee, Mr. Tank without delay bought a span of fine horses and a large traveling carriage and with five companions toured the state. For six weeks they traveled all over the southern part of the state, visiting Whitewater, Madison, Watertown and other localities. However, for a long time no large tract of vacant good land could be found. Finally he purchased 969 acres of fertile timber land on the west bank of the Fox River, now largely comprised in the eighth ward of the city of Green Bay. Hither he invited the Moravian colony of Milwaukee to come and settle, and promised free lands to all. This offer was received with joy by his countrymen, and on the first day of August, 1850, the whole colony moved to the new settlement—some twenty-seven persons in all, including the pastor, Rev. A. M. Iverson.

Tank's first work was to lay out a number of lots on both sides of what is now State Street, in Green Bay. Surrounding these, larger (ten acre) lots were laid out. These building sites were then, according to Moravian custom, apportioned to the colonists by lot. The farmlands surrounding the village were later to be surveyed. A park covering about two acres was also laid out on the banks of the river; this was to be the site for the church. Meanwhile, the north room of Tank's cottage was solemnly consecrated as a place of worship. The congregation, together with the village, received the name of Ephraim; that is, "the very fruitful."

There was a very large two-story building on the premises erected by Eastern Episcopalians as a mission for the Indians.<sup>1</sup> This house was vacant at the time. Mr. Tank fitted this out with the necessary furniture and here for six months the entire congregation dwelt in comfort and fellowship. The housekeeping was managed on the communistic plan. At 5 o'clock in the morning the morning bell roused all. At 5:30 another bell called them to prayers. After breakfast the men separated and went to work at the various occupations which Mr. Tank had found for them; some to clear land, others to build houses and shops, while others went out on the lake to fish. Being a man of education, Mr. Tank also made immediate arrangements for a school. One room was fitted out for educational purposes and here five of the young men were enrolled as students in a home missionary class. Mr. Tank taught science and history while Mr. Iverson taught religion. This was the first Norwegian academy in America. It was Mr. Tank's plan to expand this school into a college where his immigrant countrymen could study medicine, law, theology and science irrespective of creeds and thus become fitted to take an active part in building up the new land of their adoption.

The prospects of the congregation and colony now looked so bright that many others joined the church. The following were one Sunday in October, 1850, added to the membership, Mr. Tank, who had in the meantime been ordained, officiating:

Gabriel and Christopher Wathne, Mads Johanneson, Inger Olson, Malene Wathne, Birgitte Behrentson, Tobias Morbek, Jens Hetland, Abraham and Catherine Annenson (Oneson), Elias and Karen Rasmussen, Anthoni and Maren Thompson and Hans Peder Hanson and his wife Elizabeth.

<sup>1</sup> This mission school was erected by Rev. R. F. Cadle in 1829 and was originally incorporated as "Wisconsin University of Green Bay." See Wisconsin Historical Collections XIV, page 412, footnote. A picture of it faces page 476, Volume 14, Wisconsin Historical Collections.

I have spoken with old men who followed Mr. Tank from Milwaukee to their new home in the wilderness. They have told me of their joy in their new found rural liberty, of the ardor which animated them as they entered upon their work of building up their homes and of the great hopes they had in the future of their communistic colony. It was, they said, a continual song of rejoicing, with each new day a stanza of bliss.

The founder, too, entered into his communistic plans with enthusiasm. He meditated on them as he wandered through the serene silence of the woods, and pondered on their ultimate fulfillment as he sat in his cottage on the banks of the peaceful Fox River. He thought of his extensive travels in many lands, of his father's royal dreams, of his long service as missionary in tropic Surinam, and felt that here in the primeval wilderness of a new continent the Lord had shown him his true field of work.

Perhaps, he thought, he was to be permitted in some slight measure to emulate the shining example of that great man of God, Count Zinzendorf, who had founded the religious community he supported, and whose influence had gone to the outermost parts of the earth. His countrymen were every year coming by the thousands to America, destitute and friendless: he would help them out of the bounty with which the Lord had blessed him. There was no established church to minister to their spiritual wants: in his community they should find a well-ordered service and sanctuary. Their children needed education and religious training: in his schools they should be amply provided.

In imagination he saw the timbered solitudes give way to well tilled sunny fields; thrifty villages, noisy with the laughter of romping children; busy factories filled with contented workmen. He seemed to hear the full-toned hymns of praise from crowded churches, and saw devout young men in his Bible school studying the word of God, preparatory to a missionary life. As plan and prospect opened before him, it seemed to him vastly greater to be the steward of God for the relief and help of the needy in a far-away land, than to be the envied and uneasy head of a petty temporal principality.

But alas! all this was not to be! Ever since Peter and Paul in the first full-some days of the faith "withstood each other to the face" in vainglorious thirst for clerical supremacy, it has seemed that grim discord has been the firstborn child of church fellowship. Such was also the case here. The young pastor of the congregation was a zealous and well meaning man; but because of wide temperamental differences he failed utterly to comprehend Mr. Tank's character and aims. I spoke with Mr. Iverson several times before he died in Sturgeon Bay a few years ago and he told me that he never could understand what a man of Tank's wealth and opportunities really meant by settling in this wilderness. He naively suspected him of scheming to enrich himself by introducing the obnoxious tenant system of Norway of which he had seen so many intolerable abuses in Norway. He therefore demanded that Tank deed the lands to the settlers at whatever price could be agreed upon. As this was contrary to Mr. Tank's communistic plans he refused to do so. Moreover, being of an aristocratic temperament he refused to go about justifying himself.

Iverson, feeling his responsibility as shepherd of the flock, communicated his distrust to the communists and urged them to withdraw. In this he was easily successful. They had unbounded faith in their ardent spiritual leader, were from the



same part of Norway, and, like him, were very suspicious and emotional. To many of them the whole thing seemed like a dream. To have a strange man from the upper crust of European aristocracy, with fabulous wealth at his disposal, suddenly appear among them, offering to give them lands, schools, churches, was too good to be true. Somewhere in the whole scheme, they thought, there must be some fearful snare. The result was that in the spring of 1851, after eight months of communistic life, after presenting to Mr. Tank an unacceptable ultimatum, the whole colony withdrew.

A couple of attempts were now made to move the colony to Sturgeon Bay. There was at that time only one settler at Sturgeon Bay—Mr. Oliver Perry Graham—and nearly all the land was open for settlement. These attempts would have been successful but for Mr. Iverson's opposition. He went to Sturgeon Bay on the ice in the winter of 1852 and saw that the timber on the shore was all evergreens. Being of the belief that evergreens grew only on poor soil he dissuaded most of the colonists from going there. The disappointed colonists, becoming more and more disconsolate in the meantime, struggled to eke out a precarious living by doing odd jobs.

Among the men that had joined the Moravian colony at Fort Howard was a man by the name of Ole Larson (father of William Larson, now a prominent business man in Green Bay). He was from Skien, in the southern part of Norway. In the spring of 1852 he, with Even Nelson from Porsgrund, Norway, and Peter Weborg, the first man to emigrate from Lom, Gudbrandsdalen, Norway, set out on Green Bay with a boat to find a good place to start as fishermen. At Fish Creek they found Increase Claflin, the only settler in the northern part of the peninsula. He told them that the fishing among the islands near by was excellent. Consequently they settled there, Nelson and Weborg taking claims a short distance north of Claflin, while Larson went a little farther north and settled on Eagle Island.

Late in the fall of 1852 Ole Larson returned to Green Bay on a business trip. He told Mr. Iverson of his new home, of the excellent fishing and of fine hardwood timberland on the mainland inside of Eagle Island. About the same time Mr. Iverson received \$500 as a loan from Bishop H. A. Schults in Bethlehem, Pa., to be used in buying land for the colonists. Greatly cheered by the receipt of this money and by the news brought by Larson, he determined to go and see the land that Larson had described. About the first day of February, 1853, when the ice was safe for traveling, he set out afoot accompanied by H. B. Jacobs, Abraham Oneson and Gabriel Wathne. After a march of three days they arrived at Eagle Island. Mr. Iverson describes his first impressions of the site of the Village of Ephraim as follows:

"The next morning we felt a little stiff after our long walk on the ice but soon I was out of the house and gazed to the southeast toward the land at the head of the deep bay. Soon I discovered that although the trees along the shore were evergreens the timber behind was hardwood and quite different from the timber at Sturgeon Bay. With delight I looked for some time and ruminated: Perhaps our loved little congregation should be planted here on this land by the romantic bay and with the high cliff opposite so grand in appearance? After morning worship and a good breakfast we set out with Larson in the lead over the smooth ice across the beautiful bay, a distance of about two miles. I had in my morning prayer prayed to the Lord earnestly that our investigation might be crowned with success and that we



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might find a good place for our congregation. With this hope I now hastened forward, well supplied with maps and diagrams. I set my foot upon the land for the first time in the name of Jesus, silently but with strange feelings. We found after we had come to land, right close to where I later built my own house, that there was a belt of mostly small evergreens, mixed with deciduous trees along the shore. But this belt was not broad. Soon we came to a beautiful stretch of timber, mostly hardwood (maple, beech, ironwood, with some basswood and oak), and the farther east we went the more beautiful was the forest, the trees so high and straight and so open it was between them that it seemed to us that without clearing a road one could drive forward with horses and wagon without hindrance. About a half a mile back of the shore Brother Jacobs removed the snow, which was about a foot deep, and dug into the soil with a stick of wood. He brought his hands up full of black soil which he said was not only good but rich for farming. Ole Larson praised it no less. Strangely enough Brother Jacobs did not this time strike any stone and least of all did we dream of that layer of limestone which lay only a few feet under the surface.

"From the east we wandered north about a mile and found the same kind of soil and the most beautiful hardwood timber. I can only compare the trees to gigantic organ pipes, and from the tops of these trees there came to us a soft murmur which struck my ears as a good omen. That we all felt enthusiastic in a high degree is easily understood. Well satisfied, we turned westward again toward the shore until we came to an abrupt break in the surface of the land. But Larson pointed out that there were many places where the land was less steep where roads could be laid.

"When we reached the shore Larson pointed out to us that we ought to find marks upon the trees showing where the section line ran. After some searching we found this down by the shore close to where later our church was built. While the brethren made this mark more conspicuous to the eye I stepped aside among the small evergreens and knelt down upon the white snow. The Saviour only knows how deeply I prayed for the first time upon the spot. I received assurance that right here would our Lord plant his little congregation and never forsake it in spite of all humble circumstances. I returned to my companions and told them I was solemnly assured that here was the place for our congregation and to this they fervently agreed. Well satisfied we in the afternoon returned to Larson's comfortable house, where a good dinner awaited us. Before partaking of this I first sent up to the Lord our fervent thanks for his mercy and guidance which we had just experienced. After dinner followed an animated conference in which we by the help of our diagrams found that our \$500 would enable us to take up a tract of land a mile wide on the shore and running back three-quarters of a mile."

Mr. Iverson now made a trip to the U. S. land office at Menasha, where he bought  $424\frac{3}{4}$  acres for a total cost of \$478. He then platted the tract into village lots about an acre and a half in size with larger farm lots in the rear. In this he largely followed Mr. Tank's plat of the proposed village near Fort Howard. He and the congregation also adopted the name of Ephraim, which Mr. Tank had chosen, for the new village.

One day in May, 1853, a vessel tied up to the river bank at Fort Howard to convey the colonists to their future home. The day was radiant with the promise of spring, but it was the darkest day in Mr. Tank's life. He saw the unfortunate

emigrants hurry down to the vessel with their few earthly possessions. Their children carried their simple, home-made tools; their poor wives struggled with the heavy emigrant chests; and the men shouldered their sacks of potatoes and grain, and brought their few cows and chickens on board. As Tank looked on their honest faces, pinched with poverty, and saw the heavy movements of their limbs, stiffened by excessive labor, now about to carry them off to greater privations and toils, they appeared to him as wayward children, sulkily denying themselves a gentle father's care. How his heart yearned for these people! How gladly would he have gathered them in his arms, like a hen gathering her chickens under her wings, but they would not!

He could not follow these people. They had spurned his gifts and to urge further kindness upon them would but confirm them in their suspicions. Their paths and his had no future crossing. Nor would he return and take possession of the ancestral halls in Norway. His complacent relatives, snugly intrenched in pharisaic conventionalism, had with sarcastic pity seen him abandon the honors and pleasures of a brilliant career to become a missionary to the slaves of South America. They would see little additional honor for him in being jilted by a lot of praying emigrants. Better a secluded life on the banks of the Fox, where there was time to meditate on the futilities of life. So there Tank remained until his death, with the exception of a few trips abroad for the education of his daughter Marian.<sup>2</sup>

During the summer of 1853 all the colonists lived on the island. By careful gleanings from many sources I am able to give the names of practically all of these first settlers as follows:

Rev. A. M. Iverson.	Zacharias Morbek.
Ole Larson.	Abraham Oneson.
Capt. Andrew Nelson.	Thomas Davidson.
H. P. Jacobs.	Henry Johnson.
Zacharias Wathne.	Gotfried Matthes (German).
Tobias Morbek.	Gabriel Wathne.

All of these were married men with the exception of the last named.

These all lived on Eagle Island during the first summer. A number of temporary shanties were erected to house the colonists and for a while the little island was quite populous. Meanwhile the people divided their time between fishing, clearing land and housebuilding. Writing forty years later, Mr. Iverson describes the first day's work on the mainland as follows:

"I remember so distinctly the first morning when we began to clear land. There were eight of us who rowed over from the island. Arrived at my lot, I kneeled

<sup>2</sup> Disappointed in philanthropy, Mr. Tank now turned to business, chief of which was his share with Morgan L. Martin and others in building the Fox River Canal from Green Bay to Neenah. Millions of dollars were spent on this enterprise of which Mr. Tank was the financial agent. When Mr. Tank died in 1864 his library numbering more than five thousand volumes was presented by Mrs. Tank to the State Historical Society in Madison. Information gleaned from some of the old Dutch books in this collection, in 1899, helped to settle the boundary dispute between England and Venezuela, thus doing its part in averting a possible war with Great Britain.

For further information about Mr. Tank the reader is referred to my address on Tank delivered before the State Historical Society in 1908 and printed in its Proceedings for that year, pages 146-154.

among the bushes and prayed earnestly to the Lord that he would bless the work and here plant and water his own congregation. When I for the first time swung my axe over my head it was with a vivid realization of the psalmist's words when he exclaims 'Here has the sparrow found a house and the swallow a nest.' Soon the first tree crashed to the ground. I had two young men to assist me. We worked with rare energy and soon our perspiration flowed like tears. In the afternoon heavy columns of smoke were seen to rise from four different places in that we sought as much as possible to burn up the brush as fast as we made it."

About the middle of November the greater number of the colonists moved over to the new Village of Ephraim, where four houses by this time were erected. The first to be finished was the one built by Zacharias Wathne. This was a very humble dwelling and stood on the hillside east of Mr. Wilson's present home. The second was Mr. Oneson's, which stood on the site of the Hillside Hotel. The third was Mr. Iverson's, which is still standing in its original shape and size. At that time it was considered a most excellent and roomy house, being 36 by 24 feet in size. Even Nelson and Peter Weborg erected this house without cost to Mr. Iverson and made a very good job of it. Some of the other colonists made shingles for it, while Iverson personally made the doors, windows and other trimmings. It is now one of the two or three oldest buildings in the county.

H. P. Jacobs had built a pretty good house in Sturgeon Bay. This he tore down, marked the logs and thereupon towed them to Ephraim. His house was recently torn down to make room for the Anderson Hotel.

That winter there was  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet of snow on the level. For thirty miles north and south of the little settlement the forest reigned unbroken, inhabited only by wild beasts whose growls were often heard in the night. There was no post-office or store within 75 miles and no church within 200. But the colonists lived comfortably without these necessities, eking out their slender provisions by hunting and fishing and meeting regularly for divine worship in Iverson's roomy sitting-room.

The next summer the little colony was augmented by a large company of Norwegian immigrants who were directed to Eagle Island by a friend of the colony who lived in Chicago. These new arrivals were Anders Nelson (Lindhjem), the father of banker C. L. Nelson of Sturgeon Bay; John Thoreson, Soren Hanson (Estey) with his grown sons, Henrik and Andrew Hanson; Hans Hanson Omli with his grown sons Hans and Andrew O. Hanson, Ingebert Torgerson, Jorgen Amundson, John Anderson (Macla), Torkel Knudson (Nevlungen) and Ole Sorenson. These all arrived at Eagle Island August 24, 1854, on the steamer Columbia, owned by J. M. Crow of Washington Island and found lodgment in the little shanties erected by the Moravian colonists the year before. Unfortunately they brought with them the germs of the dreadful Asiatic cholera and an epidemic broke out among them. They had no physician and no remedies of any kind. One after another got sick and many died. No less than seven cholera victims were buried on the island.

These people were all from Larvik, in the southern part of Norway, and were very different from the Moravian colonists in many ways. Strong of brawn if not of brain, they all began to carve out farms from the Government lands northeast of Ephraim (with the exception of Henrik Hanson and Ole Sorenson, who took farms within the present limits of the Peninsula Park). To begin with they had but little interest in religion and preferred to spend their leisure, in the fashion of the

times, in boisterous carousings. John Thoreson, who early became a dominant personality in Liberty Grove, usually had a barrel of whiskey on tap and all visitors were invited to help themselves as if out a water barrel. The story is told that once some of these hearties had been to Ole Sorenson on a visit. It was dark, they were drunk, and they were prowling along the edge of Eagle Cliff trying to find a place to climb down and reach the beach. Torkel Knudson, who was very strong, suggested that they take John Anderson, who was tall and lank and use him for a sounding line. If he could reach the incline below they figured it would be safe to slide down. This proposition was adopted with acclaim. Torkel seized John by the heels and dropped him "overboard." The first time this was done they tried it just above the big cave and poor John, the protesting sounding line, was frightened into sobriety by finding himself dangling head down over a perpendicular cliff 150 feet high.

Such doings naturally shocked the pious Moravians greatly. Little by little, however, these people came under Iverson's gentle influence and many of them became very good church members.

There was as yet no public school in Door County. However, Ole Larson's talented daughter, Pauline, volunteered to teach the children, staying for a few days in each house where all the children could gather. This plan was put into use in the spring of 1854 and worked very well. This was the beginning of the public school system in Door County. When Mr. Iverson in the spring of 1858 was elected the first superintendent of schools, he organized the first school districts of northern Door County (which was then all included in the Town of Gibraltar) as follows: Fish Creek, district number 1; Ephraim, district number 2; Egg Harbor, district number 3; Bailey's Harbor, district number 4. At Ephraim the first schoolhouse was built on the hill at the east end of Mr. Iverson's lot and Pauline Larson was engaged as teacher at the salary of \$16 per month for a three-month term beginning in June and ending in August. Miss Larson (later Mrs. Martin Johnson) was also the first Sunday school teacher and was a most efficient assistant in all the activities of the congregation.

Mr. Iverson each year made many missionary journeys to Sturgeon Bay, Fort Howard, New Denmark, Mishicott, Marinette, Milwaukee and Chicago. While most of these trips were laborious journeys on foot through trackless woods and swamps he came in contact with many pioneers seeking new land and in this manner many were directed to Ephraim. Among those who were thus directed to Ephraim were Peter Peterson, Aslag and Halvor Anderson, Carl Nelson, John Eliason, Martin Johnson, Knut Helgeson, Thomas Goddletson (Gudleikson) and Nels Lindquist with his five sons. All these later well known and sturdy pioneers came in the years 1856-58.

By this time so many people had settled at Ephraim that Mr. Iverson's sitting-room was insufficient to accommodate all those who came to attend the regular religious services. But the people were very poor and could not provide the money to build a church. In the summer of 1857 a gift of quite a respectable amount was received from Rev. H. A. Schultz, which he had collected in Bethlehem, Pa., to be used for a church building at Ephraim. This was such an encouragement to the people at Ephraim that they with much self-denial managed to subscribe a considerable sum and the building of the church was begun. With their characteristic veneration for sacred things it was agreed that their little temple of worship should



THE VILLAGE SCHOOL, EPHRAIM, 1877

H. A. Anderson, Miss Lizzie Anderson, Rev. John and Samuel Groenfeldt, Bernt Oneson, O. M. Olson, Misses Martina and Hannah Valentine, Mrs. Louise Thornton, Miss Ruth Lundberg (teacher), Mrs. Grant Haskell, Mrs. Julia Peterson, Mrs. B. D. Thorp, Misses Munda and Olive Anderson, Miss Charlotte Amundson, Mrs. Aleck Johnson, Nora Nelson, Aleck Anderson, Annie Nelson, William Cappers.





not be built of the rough logs of the forest, such as they had used in the construction of their humble homes, but must be built of sawed and planed lumber of excellent quality, in such a manner as would dignify the church for religious use for generations to come. Accordingly Captain Clow of Chambers Island was sent for to go to Cedar River, then the principal lumber port on Green Bay, with his little flat bottomed schooner, Pocahontas, after a cargo of lumber. Iverson writes: "He soon came, but was alone on board, so that on the trip I had to serve both as deckhand and cook, as well as supercargo, which was all very interesting." The congregation wished to build the church on the ten acre church lot on top of "Mount Ephraim" but due to the strenuous insistence of two members it was built on the village commons just in front of the present creamery. They managed to get the church enclosed and roofed that fall (1857) but were then obliged to drop the work for lack of funds.

The fact is the little settlement was very near starvation that fall and winter. Their small crops in 1857 were a complete failure, due to excessive heat and drought and in dismay the colonists looked forward to the winter with nothing to eat. There were no obliging merchants in the neighborhood then to extend credit in the time of need. The bank at Green Bay would not lend a dollar on their real estate. The mills of Sturgeon Bay and Cedar River were shut down due to hard times. They were almost without clothing and shoes. There was not an overcoat in the settlement. Their summer garments, made up largely of worn out grain bags, were now in tatters. They thought of the hardships of the winter before when the vessel that was to bring their provisions had frozen in and they had nothing to live on but potatoes, molasses and a little corn and fish. Now their potato bins and corn cribs and grain boxes were empty. What were they to live on?

In this dire extremity Mr. Iverson launched his little sailboat and started for Green Bay. When he came there he hunted up a Mr. Gray, a good-natured Irish merchant who owned a large schooner. To Mr. Gray he told of the dire plight in which the colony was placed and said that if Mr. Gray would advance the most necessary provisions and clothing, the colonists would pay for it by getting out as many cedar fence posts as Mr. Gray wished. This proposition was accepted on condition that all the men of the colony should come personally before Mr. Gray and enter into the required contract. With great joy the colonists heard of this plan and they all went to Green Bay and signed contracts with Mr. Gray. Personally Mr. Iverson signed a contract for 2,000 fence posts. He was also appointed foreman by Mr. Gray to superintend the condition and delivery of the posts.

The following winter there was great slashing of cedar on the lowlands of the village. Mr. Iverson personally cut most of his 2,000 posts and carried them on his back to the shore where they were piled up. As there were no horses and only two oxen in the settlement most of the others did the same. They were the choicest lot of fence posts that Mr. Gray ever received.

This venture in fence posts, although a backbreaking job, proved a profitable one. When final settlement was made in spring the settlers had quite a little balance left for improvements. Peter Peterson at this time (1858) opened a store on the west end of what is now Oscar Wilson's lot and Aslag Anderson built a pier. This proved a great convenience for shipping forest products.

About this time occurred the first lawsuit in Ephraim which was also one of the first in the county. The justice of the peace was Zacharias Morbek, a man of

ready gifts but of a domineering personality who had things pretty much his own way in politics. A certain man north of Ephraim was brought before the justice accused of assault and battery upon his (the defendant's) wife. The testimony developed that there was quite a mistake in that it was proved that the defendant had not been guilty of beating his wife but his cow. This, however, made no difference to the learned judge. With ready decision he declared that both offenses were well known to law and that it was plain that the defendant was guilty of cruelty to animals which covered both specific offenses. He therefore sentenced him to sixty days in jail and ordered the constable to take the prisoner to the jail in Green Bay. In the commitment furnished to the constable the justice recited the facts and concluded: "A. B. having made complaint to him in writing that C. D. did assault and beat his wife, and the testimony offered on the trial showed clearly that the defendant is guilty of cruelty to animals under the laws of this state: Therefore, it is the sense of this court, duly empaneled and sworn, that the defendant, C. D., be committed to the county jail for the term of sixty days and the jailer be directed to feed said C. D. on bread and water, and may the Lord have mercy on your poor soul!"

In the spring of 1858 the colonists were overjoyed to receive a visit from their old friend and benefactor in Bethlehem, Bishop H. A. Schultz, who was accompanied by his daughter. They stayed for a couple of weeks, made the acquaintance of every settler, and so kind, sympathetic and noble were they that it seemed to the humble colonists that they were visited by angels from heaven. Finally the day of parting came and they were all moved to tears. It was Bishop Schultz's plan to go by boat to Fish Creek and there take the steamer for Buffalo. That morning, however, there was a little sea on the bay and Bishop Schultz who had a strange fear of the water said it was impossible for them to embark in a small boat in such weather. At that time there was no wagon road to Fish Creek but only a wretched trail through the timber which led across two swamps where there was always a couple of feet of slimy water standing. It was decided to try this trail. All went well until they reached the first swamp. Here Mr. Iverson proposed to follow an invisible little path that went through the underbrush to the north. Mr. Schultz, however, was persuaded it would be impossible for them to find their way through that jungle. Finally it was decided that Mr. Iverson should carry Miss Schultz through the swamps while the bishop followed, making a desperate attempt to balance himself while leaning on Zacharias Wathne on a string of fallen trees that lay on one side of the path.

During the spring and summer of 1859 Mr. Iverson as usual made many missionary trips to Sturgeon Bay, Fort Howard, New Denmark, Chicago and other places in Illinois. Upon these trips he told of their hopes in Ephraim of completing the church. He was able to take up so many contributions that the work was resumed. Doors and windows and seats were ordered from Green Bay, a steeple was built and the church was thoroughly painted and plastered. Mr. Iverson personally made a massive, well constructed pulpit. Through a gift from Bethlehem they were also able to purchase and hang up a bell. On the 18th day of December, the day set for the dedication of this first church in Door County and Northern Wisconsin, the church stood complete and immaculate, free from debt.

This 18th day of December, 1859, was probably the greatest day that Ephraim has seen. A heavy snow had fallen the night before but nevertheless, when the new

church bell tolled for the first service in the trim little church, slowly moving oxen were seen to come from every direction bringing full packed sleighs of worshippers. They came, the Thorps, the Minors, the Clafins, the Barringers, the Weborgs, and all the others from the west; the Nortons and Jarmans from the south; the Dorns, the Hempels and the Langohrs from the east; the Amundsens, the Omlis, the Andersons, the Knudsons and others from the north; and last, but not least, the village congregation itself. When the last bell rang the church was filled to the last seat, a well instructed choir was in the gallery, and the memorable service began. With more than the usual fervor their pastor this morning preached, and the congregation, stirred partly by his ardent address and partly by their own ruminations, was moved to tears. Now as they sat in their own well built house of worship it seemed to them such a great achievement that they could hardly believe it. They had suffered so long in toil and tribulation, in cold and sickness, in hunger and nakedness that this dedication of their own church seemed to them to inaugurate a new era. For ten years the congregation had been buffeted about, moving from place to place in the wilderness like the children of Israel but suffering far greater hardships than they. No manna here daily fell from heaven to feed them—they had to toil for it in the forest primeval. When their wives or their children were sick there was no golden serpent hung on high upon which they might look and get well—they could only pray in anguish over their afflicted ones. Here no grand ceremonial cheered them on from day to day with impressive pomp and the sound of trumpets—they had to work out their own material and spiritual salvation in solitude and humility.

Poor, brave, self denying, suffering, pioneer fathers and mothers! Like the seed corn planted in the ground perishing unseen to produce the luxuriant life that springs from it, so these pioneers buried themselves in the wilderness, killed themselves with hard work that their children might have a competence. But the children of this new land, how little they often appreciate the sacrifices of their pioneer ancestors! They remember only in disdain their father's rags and bent back, their mother's wrinkles and rough hands and forget that these are the price of their own prosperity!

This date in fact marked an epoch in the history of Ephraim. While for many long years it continued in its isolation, like an oasis in the desert, separated from other settlements by vast stretches of untracked forests, it prospered and grew. In 1864 the founder of the settlement was called to another field but he was succeeded by Rev. J. J. Groenfeldt who did not suffer the light that had been lit on "Mount Ephraim" to grow dim. For almost sixty years now that church bell has tolled each Sunday morning calling the people to worship from far and near. For almost sixty years a minister of the gospel has stood in its pulpit, calling upon the people to turn their thoughts from material to spiritual things. Such things as these make for steadfastness of character, for high standards of living. The dance hall and its devotees have never found an opening in Ephraim. No saloon has ever poured out its foul stench, coarse jests and vulgar laughter upon this community. While the village and its people are far from perfect, it is a clean, sweet place to dwell in with high ideals and sterling honesty.

In closing this account of the early history of Ephraim a word of appreciation for Mr. Iverson must be added. He was not only its founder, he was also its nurse and educator. He made Ephraim what it is. Like a mother watching over her

little baby so Iverson worked for Ephraim with unceasing diligence and love. This comes out strongly in the splendid narrative of his pastoral labors which he wrote almost forty years later when he was an old man on the brink of the grave. Nothing could be more tender, more sympathetic, more loving than his account of his pastorate in Ephraim. The reader gets a most vivid impression of a faithful little flock, living together in most primitive conditions but rich in pentecostal blessings, unselfishly dividing their incomes. Often his narrative reaches sublime heights of pathos. His account of the death of his friend Tobias Morbek, his story of the conversion of his daughter at the Christmas tree festival and of her later death are exceedingly touching. At no time is there any self commiseration in his narrative for the sacrifices he made. He tells in straightforward terms of his work and of his perilous journeys over land and sea and ice at a time when there was not a mile of road in the county.

Most fortunate indeed was this community in the wilderness to have a man like Iverson as its spiritual guide and friend! He shared their physical labors with them, he untangled their business difficulties, he watched by their bedsides and eased their pain with homemade remedies, he prayed for them and with them at all opportunities.

May Ephraim always be true to the memory of its founder!

There is little to add to the history of Ephraim. The Moravian community so well started by its founder has continued to prosper. About 1860 Peter Peterson, the Ephraim merchant and old time friend of Reverend Iverson, for an unknown reason turned against him and began to work for the establishment of a Lutheran congregation. After about fifteen years he succeeded and the new congregation flourished for a time. It is now, however, almost extinct.

Among the well known present old settlers of Ephraim are three families which have not yet been mentioned because they came a little later. These are Jacob A. Smith, Ephraim's silent patriarch and lifelong merchant who came in 1868 and has ever since been an efficient leader in the community; Martin Olson and his son, O. M. Olson, who came in 1866 and Fordel Hogenson, who came in 1873.

Ephraim is now famous in many states for its superb scenery and pleasant tourist accommodations. This business began about the year 1900, although many summer resorters were accustomed to spend their vacations here before that time.

## CHAPTER XXXV

### THE BIRTH OF FISH CREEK

Once upon a time there was a New York Yankee by the name of Asa Thorp. He assisted his father in tending the locks of the Erie Canal at Oswego, N. Y. At that time (in the '40s) a very large part of the traffic on the canal consisted in immigrant passengers bound for the West. They were packed in huge flat bottomed scows, much the same as is now used at Sturgeon Bay for freighting stone from the quarries. These scows were pulled along at a very slow speed by a mule walking on the bank of the canal on either side. As it was very tiresome to sit in the flatbottomed scow all day it was customary for many of the children to scamper along on the bank, picking wild flowers or playing tag. Meanwhile their fathers sedately marched behind the mules, keeping an eye on the youngsters while discussing the crops and the country through which they were passing. Every day or two there was one or more of these scows, loaded with stocky Germans, blue-eyed Norwegians or hopeful Irish, and piled high with all manner of painted chests, carpet bags and bundles. It seemed to young Asa, that judging by their numbers and by the variety of their strange and outlandish garb, that all the world was heading for the West. Day after day they glided by, a mighty army of toilers, mostly young people, determined though weary, hopeful though ragged.

What strange attractions that mighty, mysterious West had to draw so many people from the ends of the earth! He began to wonder what possibilities it had for him. Tending the locks of the canal was a job for a machine and not for a man. He began to feel the call of the wild. So, being of an adventurous disposition, he one day in 1844 stepped into one of the passing scows and joined the caravan of fortune hunters bound for the distant West.

Little by little the scow passengers scattered but most of them were bound for Milwaukee or Chicago. They stayed in the scows until they reached Buffalo. Here energetic agents herded them into lake steamers on which they passed up Lakes Erie and Huron and down Lake Michigan to Milwaukee. Here in a crude little town of unpainted shanties and mud, filth and riot, they were routed out and left to their own resources.

Back in Oswego Asa Thorp had learned the trade of making butter firkins, tubs and similar woodenware. Being desirous to see the country he soon started out on a pioneer road that led out into the wilderness, working his way by making butter firkins. The road soon dwindled into a path and after a while was nothing but a blazed trail through the timber. But along this blazed trail he would every little while come to the cabin of a new settler and everywhere the butter-firkin man was welcome. He would stop for a few days with each settler, make up their

needed stock of woodenware, inquire into the conditions of the land round about and then push on to the next settlement.

Finally he came to a little settlement in the Town of Rubicon, Dodge County, a few miles west of the present City of Hartford. Here the blazed trail stopped and what lay beyond was a sealed book to all. However, the soil was here so fertile, the timber so tall, the conditions so promising that Asa Thorp was well satisfied to go no farther. He picked out the forty of land that suited him best. Then he hurried back to Oswego, for there was a young woman there by the name of Eliza Atkinson who took the keenest interest in the outcome of Asa's journey of discovery.

Back in Oswego Asa Thorp waxed eloquent about the wonders of the distant Territory of Wisconsin. He told of the fat soil, the gently rolling land covered with huge oaks and maples and told of his own selection of a home for Eliza and him. The result was a rousing wedding participated in by all the members of the houses of Thorp and Atkinson. This was followed by a general exodus from Oswego of nearly all the members of the two families. These were old Truman Thorp with his sons, Levi, Asa, Jacob, George and Horace Thorp, Joseph Atkinson and perhaps some others. These with their families all went to Rubicon, Dodge County, Wis., where they in the spring of 1845 picked out a section of good land.

The land office at that time was in Menasha. Asa Thorp as being the most experienced in western ways was delegated to go there and make formal entry of the lands. He started out and once more got busy making butter firkins. When he came to Menasha he found it was a small village on the banks of a large river flowing to the north. He was told that there were many settlers on this river and that there was quite a city about thirty miles north at the head of Green Bay. Being in need of cash Asa decided to visit these new settlements and earn some money by his trade before returning to Rubicon. He followed the river down and met with success.

One day as he was sitting in front of a store in De Pere repairing butter firkins a tall stranger accosted him. "Say," he said, "you ought to quit that puttering with butter firkins and come with me to Rock Island and make fish barrels. There you will find the boys that have the cash."

"Rock Island?" said Asa, "what county is that in?"

"Dunno," said the stranger. "We ain't got no county down there."

"What state or territory is it in?"

"Dunno that," said the stranger, "and what's more, I don't care. We have no state, county or town organization, we have paid no taxes, we have neither lawyers nor preachers, but we have fish and we have money. It will keep you busy twenty-four hours a day to make fish barrels at your own price. If you want to make money come along with me. It is about a hundred miles down the bay and I have my own boat."

This sounded very interesting to Asa. Big earnings and no taxes. The result was that he went with the stranger, whose name was Oliver Perry Graham, to Rock Island.

He found the conditions on Rock Island as Graham had pictured them. There was a large community of prosperous fishermen on the island and they hailed the coming of the cooper with joy. While they all could make fish barrels at a pinch



ASA THORP

Founder of Fish Creek. Built the first pier in Door County at  
Fish Creek in 1846





it was beneath their dignity when money was plenty to handle other tools than their fishing outfit. On the neighboring island of St. Martins similar conditions prevailed and Asa would have settled there for good if it had not been for Eliza back in the woods at Rubicon.

Late in the fall of 1845 when most of the fishermen left the islands to drink and carouse and spend their earnings of the summer in the saloons of Fort Howard and Milwaukee, Asa Thorp also pulled out. He was fortunate enough to get passage on one of the large steamers that plied between Buffalo and Chicago, making occasional trips up Green Bay to Fort Howard. On the passage he got acquainted with the captain who told of the difficulties of running the boats because of the lack of fuel. Wood was used for fuel and while the entire peninsula that they were passing (later known as Door County) was one vast forest, there was not a pier from Fort Howard to the mouth of the bay where they could take on a dry stick. Sometimes steam failed and they lost much time sending a crew along the beach picking up driftwood and snags whereon to limp along until they could make port.

As the captain was telling his troubles, they were just passing the place where the smoke from Increase Claffin's newly built cabin could be seen rising above the tree tops. This was the only cabin on the entire Door County peninsula north of Little Sturgeon and stood on the point of land opposite the bluff where later the Village of Fish Creek was built. "Now, there," said the captain, "is just the place where a man could build a pier and earn lots of money by supplying the steamers with wood."

This suggestion at once took root in Asa Thorp's shrewd Yankee mind. He did not know anything about what town, range or section the harbor pointed out by the captain bordered on but he made careful note of every indentation of the shore line between there and Fort Howard. When he got to Menasha he compared his sketch with the Government plats and recognized the harbor he had selected. This done he entered all the land on the south and west side of this harbor for a considerable distance back.

He was very much elated when he reached Rubicon and told of the coup he had made. It was his plan to return at once to his harbor and build his pier but an insurmountable obstacle had arisen. It took every cent of his surplus earnings to provide for his family at Rubicon and his relatives were all in straitened circumstances. Circumstances had developed which permitted no other course but to stay at home in Rubicon, clearing his land for farming and caring for his family.

Years rolled by for Asa Thorp with drudging work while his Fish Creek dream lay like an unattainable paradise. Finally in 1850 his brother, Jacob, who was unmarried was able to go to Fish Creek to look after his interests. He stayed there with father Claffin, coopering and fishing. In 1854 Asa Thorp was able to move up and at once began to construct his pier, the first to be built on Green Bay between Fort Howard and Washington Island. He after a few years acquired more than seven hundred acres of land surrounding Fish Creek. The timber on this land was very good and Mr. Thorp here gave employment to many men getting out cordwood for the steamboats that called at his pier. In this manner quite a community was soon formed. In 1855 his brothers, Levi and Jacob, bought all

the land surrounding the harbor of Egg Harbor where they owned 1,600 acres and created a similar community there.<sup>1</sup>

A more detailed account of the early history of Fish Creek is given in the next chapter.

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<sup>1</sup> Asa Thorp died in 1907, having reached the ripe age of eighty-seven years. He was a gentle and unassuming man, but intelligent, persevering and progressive. He lived to see the village he had platted in the wilderness become the mecca of summer resorters in many states and his home the favorite resort of hundreds of people from far and near. The Thorp family enjoy the unique distinction of having owned and occupied the same piece of land longer than any one else in the county.

## CHAPTER XXXVI

### GIBRALTAR

Fish Creek was so named by Increase Clafin who settled there, as has been stated, in 1842. For a few years he and his family lived here in solitude, the only one on the peninsula north of Sturgeon Bay. In 1847 he was joined by Van Renssalaer Marshall who with his two sons, William and Van Renssalaer Marshall, moved up from the Bay Settlement near Green Bay in 1847. The elder Marshall froze to death in November, 1862. He was returning from Ephraim to Fish Creek by boat and as night drew on he for some unknown reason anchored at Eagle Island which was then deserted. He wrapped up in his sail and laid down in his boat to sleep. During the night it turned very cold and the old man did not again wake up. There were no other settlers until Asa Thorp came a few years later and opened up the country by his pier.

Among the earliest to join the little settlement at Fish Creek, mostly as woodchoppers, were John and Stephen Norton. They came in 1857. In those days no saws were used in making cordwood. Yet some of these woodchoppers were able to put up three to four cords of wood per day with an axe. John and Steve Norton were great choppers, one winter putting up no less than 400 cords between them. The same year also came John Brown, the later sage of Fish Creek, Horace Poppleton, Michael F. Kalmbach and John Torrey. The latter had a house on the hill east of Fish Creek later known as the Barringer farm. He was a cooper. So were also Poppleton and Brown.

A greater sage than old John Brown was old Myron H. Stevens who came in 1856 and for a time lived at the "gorge." He had a gift for law and wit and became a famous pettifogger. In this he was more prompted by a desire to outwit his opponent than to unravel legal intricacies and a good time was usually looked for and realized when old Myron Stevens took a case. When he had anything he was very charitable and when he hadn't he expected others to be. Many stories are told of his curious mannerisms and witty sayings. One day he came into a neighbor's house and said: "Say, neighbor, can you let me borrow a piece of bacon? I'll bring it back when I have cooked my beans!" Another time in winter he was riding along, blue with cold, his teeth visibly chattering, behind a slow horse. A passerby called out to him, "Say, Myron, why don't you get off and walk and get warm?" "No," replied Stevens in chilly dignity, "I would rather sit and freeze like a man than trot behind like a dog."

In 1856 a man by the name of Sweezey Burr came up from Sheboygan County to look for cheap farm lands for himself and his neighbor, David Graham. About 1½ miles south of Fish Creek, on one of the highest elevations of the peninsula he found three forties which the surveyor by some mistake had listed as swamp lands. He therefore got this land for 50 cents per acre. Early the next spring

his son, Enos Burr, moved up with his family and household goods and were landed at Baileys Harbor. There was no pier there then so they had to throw the oxen and cow into the water and swim them ashore. It was thereupon necessary for Burr to cut a meandering road across the peninsula for more than ten miles until he reached his claim where the Burr family has since resided.

December 5th of this year, 1857, the county board set aside all that part of the Door County peninsula lying north of the Sevastopol line into a separate town. This town was about forty miles long and of the width of the peninsula. The following spring the woodchoppers of Fish Creek and Egg Harbor, the cedar workers of North Bay and Baileys Harbor, and the fishermen of Ephraim and down the shore made their way along blazed trails and devious paths to Asa Thorp's house. Here the first town meeting was held and officers elected. John S. Torrey was elected chairman, Solomon Beery of Baileys Harbor was elected clerk and Rev. A. M. Iverson of Ephraim superintendent of schools. The name of Gibraltar was given to the new town at the suggestion of Solomon Beery because Gibraltar was the official name of Baileys Harbor, up to this time the county seat of Door County, which was included within the borders of the new town.

The preceding fall a man with a small trading vessel had put into the harbor so late that when he woke up the next morning he found the bay frozen over. His name was Jacob St. Ores. Being obliged to winter there he found the few pioneers who were settled there such good company that he decided to make Fish Creek his home. Moreover he made a trip back to Ozaukee County, his former home, to tell his relatives about this delightful place he had discovered. As a result his brother in law, Martin Minor, with his family, including his sons, Edward S. and Augustine A. Minor, moved up in 1858. Martin Minor built a house near the Gorge where he accumulated a great deal of land and had many woodchoppers at work for him. His son, Edward S., was persuaded to join the Fish Creek colony for the purpose of becoming its first schoolteacher. However, it was little tempting for an adventurous youth to sit in a little log schoolhouse in the wilderness as schoolmaster and he preferred to roam abroad as a sailor. Later he became a merchant in Fish Creek and finally went to Washington as congressman.

The early woodchoppers who first laid low our splendid virgin timber were generally of the opinion that Door County was too far north to grow anything but grass. Asa Thorp had hopes, however. The first year in which he ventured into agriculture he cautiously planted potatoes. They grew and yielded amazingly. The next year he planted flint corn of the hardiest variety known. This, too, succeeded. After that he sowed and reaped all manner of things until he finally grew peaches which won premiums at great national expositions.

Encouraged by this success others soon began to grub out the stumps and dig out the stones that generously covered all the surrounding land. Among the earliest of these in Northern Door County were old Isaac J. Jarman who with his sons, Thomas, Joshua and Charles, settled in Fish Creek in 1858. Thomas and Joshua Jarman and Horace Poppleton lost their lives in a storm off Chambers Island the following year. Charles and his father, Isaac, pre-empted a tract of land about three miles east of Fish Creek which became the well known homestead of the Jarman family. Being misled by the large timber the Jarman family were unfortunate in selecting one of the stoniest tracts of land in the town while only a mile to the south lay very choice farming land which was not taken up until fifteen years



BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF FISH CREEK. STATE PARK IN THE DISTANCE



later. Undismayed by this, however, Charles Jarman every morning at sunrise trudged through the swamps and underbrush on his way from Fish Creek to toil all day in his nest of stones; and being a paragon for hard work he soon had a respectable farm to show.

Enos Burr, Chas. Jarman, John and Stephen Norton are among the first men to take up farming for a living in Northern Door County. The Moravian colonists around Ephraim began to till the soil a few years before them but with them it was more of a side line as they occupied only small lots. These men all came in the '50s and were the only ones to try farming in Gibraltar until after the Civil war. In the meantime a number of fishermen came, among them being Ingham Kinsey, Geo. Jones, Charles Gessler and Charles Jeffcott. In 1861 came John Hogan and C. P. Fairchild. The latter bought considerable land near the "Gorge" where he was busy for some years cutting cordwood. In 1862 came Stephen Mapes, a friend of Enos Burr, from SheyboGAN County. He had fourteen children and toted them all and all his other possessions through the timber for 200 miles on a two-wheeled cart drawn by two oxen. When he came to Sturgeon Bay he built a raft and managed to get the oxen and all on board. Standing in front of the oxen feeding them corn to keep them quiet so that the fourteen babies would not be spilled out he ferried them across to the promised land where riches and happiness were soon expected but which, alas, were never realized.

Dan L. Fish and Josiah Judd came in 1863. That winter many people were on the point of starvation in the north country. In Baileys Harbor the provisions first ran out. A crew of men cut a road across the peninsula to Fish Creek, where the people divided provisions with the people of Baileys Harbor. Soon the people of Fish Creek were also in need when it became necessary to carry what was needed from Green Bay.

Due to being the first stopping place and fuel station on the peninsula Fish Creek early assumed an importance which for a time almost rivaled Sturgeon Bay. In the later '60s there were two stores in the village doing a lively business. One was owned by E. S. Minor and Frantz Blakefield (the latter came from a distinguished family in Norway where his name was spelled Blichfeldt). The other store was owned by W. H. Sellick and David McCummings. Sellick also operated a sawmill. There were also two large piers, one owned by Asa Thorp, the other by McCummings. David McCummings came to Fish Creek in 1865. He had three sons whom he named De Witt, De Hart and De Los. He also had a daughter who was named De Ette. When another daughter came his supply of names beginning with the French prefix De was exhausted. He was therefore obliged, very unwillingly, to christen her with a name in which the de came in the second syllable—Adelaide.

Fish Creek was after the war the chief fishing center in the county and D. W. Ranney removed his fish buying station from Washington Harbor to Fish Creek. With him came Levi Vorous who for some years had been his manager. At this time also came Samuel Churches and Alexander Noble—two political antagonists who for years seesawed for the chairmanship of the Town of Gibraltar. Sam Churches was a precise and well informed official but rather crabbed. Alexander Noble was also efficient but infinitely more cross grained with a caustic wit which was the dread and admiration of all.



At the close of the war there settled in Fish Creek a queer individual who for many years figured prominently in the county news. This was Dr. E. M. Thorpe, the first dentist in the county. He was also an amateur lawyer and when not giving legal advice to others was busy in pushing suits of his own. He seems to have been drawn to Fish Creek because of the beauty of the scenery. He bought Strawberry Island which he entirely cleared of timber with the exception of a fringe around the shore. He also built a first class two story house, constructed a dock, dug a well and a cistern, laid sidewalks around the house and to the dock and made an excellent driveway around the island, making a road of about  $1\frac{1}{4}$  miles in length. A large part of the island—about twenty acres he planted to grapes. He also kept about six hundred hens. All the improvements he made were such that they withstood the wear and tear of the weather and the ice and for twenty years later Strawberry Island was reckoned the most beautiful spot in the county.

Two other prominent citizens of the county, whose families have since moved away, also settled in Fish Creek at the close of the war. These were L. P. Hill and L. M. Griswold. L. P. Hill came from Beaver Island, the famous Mormon island kingdom in Lake Michigan in the '50s where he won his wife from the household of King James Strang in a most romantic manner. L. P. Hill's sons, in the '90s organized a steamship company and for many years operated passenger boats on Green Bay with headquarters at Fish Creek. They later moved to Kenosha, where they are now operating a line of boats between Chicago and Racine.

L. M. Griswold operated a sawmill and other business and was a prominent man in Fish Creek in his day. His wife was the chief agent in securing for Fish Creek the little Episcopal Church which nestles in the center of the village as pretty as any picture. This was originally the unfinished dwelling of a fisherman by the name of Charles Gessler. Mrs. Griswold and old Mrs. Sarah Jeffcutt interested friends in the East in the needs of the village of a church and the dwelling was remodeled. For a time a resident rector conducted regular services here. The Episcopalian worship seems, however, to lack that element of dogmatic doctrine which seems to be a need of a husky pioneer community. This was found a few years later when a zealous Seventh Day Adventist arrived and held stirring revival services centering on the saving grace of Saturday. His labors were amply rewarded and on May 1, 1876, while the harbor was still half full of ice, thirty-four grown persons were baptized by immersion amid the bobbing ice cakes.

Fish Creek has always been a fairly orderly and well behaved village and it is many years since any saloon has been permitted in the village or the town. In the early days, however, a saloon was in operation where the village loafers would meet to swap fish stories over a glass of stale beer. This came to an abrupt and dramatic ending through the energy of a resolute lady of the village, the forerunner of the famous Carrie Nation, who became disgusted at the waywardness of her worthy spouse. One Sunday evening as he and other village notables were dozing over a game of penny-ante the door suddenly opened and his irate wife appeared in the door with her apron full of brickbats. She wasted no time in words but let fly a cobble stone which instantly smashed the smoky lamp. Thereafter darkness and pandemonium ruled the room. The lords of the card table forgot their dignity and dived head first under the billiard table while stones and curses flew around the room. A door finally opened to the barkeeper's kitchen, when, seeing this avenue of

escape, the men stood not upon the order of their going but flung out all in a heap, leaving the doughty woman a defiant victor.

A jolly good town is old Fish Creek,  
The best on the pike, I know;  
With its back to the rock and its face to the sea  
Where the rollicking breezes blow.  
As snug as a bug in an old woolen rug  
It lies there embowered in green;  
You may go where you like, on any old pike  
No cosier village is seen.

When old Father Claffin discovered "old Door,"  
Some four score years ago,  
With Indians and black bear it was galore  
And sturgeon—a wonderful show!  
He roamed the timber and cruised the shore  
Delighted with all he did see.  
But when he saw Fish Creek he roamed no more;  
But said: "My home here shall be!"

Do you know the folks of Fish Creek town?  
A merry stout lot are they.  
Their wives are sure some famous cooks—  
Just look at their men, I say!  
Why nearly every man in town  
Has a waistband of forty or more.  
With a happy old chuckle around they go,  
Grand boosters to the core.

At the same time as Fish Creek received the above settlers a number of Scandinavian fishermen came and settled on the shore north of Fish Creek, now known as Blossomburg, where Peter Weborg and Even Nelson had settled in the early '50s. Among these were Carl Lundberg, Gjert Anderson, Ole Sorenson, Sven Anderson and Ole Nilson Klungeland. Eventually the whole Peninsula Park area became peopled with Scandinavians, about thirty-five families. Ole Sorenson was a famous strong man of his community. Once on a bet he carried a barrel of salt pork, weighing 260 pounds, on his back from Peterson's store in Ephraim to his home, a distance of three miles over the ice. Sven Anderson was a very gentle minded old bachelor and retired sailor who settled here because of the transcendent beauty of the scenery. He built his house high up on top of "Sunset Cliff," also known as "Sven's Bluff," where he could enjoy one of the finest views in America. His house (still standing) was a mecca for all the children of the neighborhood, because he always treated them so courteously and generously. Although a bachelor he always had a petticoat hanging on the wall, "so as to make the house look a little more homelike."

Back in the woods, a half mile, still stands Ole Klungeland's old log shanty. Ole Klungeland is said to have given the name to this locality. In his early days,

when Ole Klungeland was a man of many affairs he frequently traveled from Fish Creek to Ephraim by boat. In rounding Eagle Bluff he often encountered contrary winds, and therefore called the more exposed shore north of Fish Creek "Blaasenberg" (the windy mountain). This name later became Blossomburg.

Because of his many notorious lawsuits and numerous eccentricities Ole Klungeland is remembered far and wide as a famous pioneer clown. Numerous stories are told of him, all of which border on the ridiculous. Ole Klungeland, however, took himself very seriously and no one can recall having seen him smile. When he first arrived from the old country he appeared to be a man of some consequence as he dazzled the little community by appearing in a tall silk hat and toggery to match. He also seemed to have plenty of means and bought much land. It was very difficult in those days to obtain perfect titles owing to the fact that nearly all lands had lapsed for taxes; but Ole Klungeland dauntlessly entered suit after suit. He was often victorious but as the lawyers and pettifoggers got the spoils, there was finally nothing left to Ole but one forty and a wealth of experience. His former glory had departed, including his money and his silk hat. So he settled down in his little cabin, satiated with lawyers and suspicious of the world, brooding over an old volume of law which was practically his only surviving possession, hoping therein to find the means to outwit his enemies and open the door to restitution and renown.

Unlike his neighbor, Sven Anderson, whose house was as neat as an old maid's Ole Klungeland gradually slipped into the depths of slothfulness. His time was taken up with the study of his lawbook and he had none to spare for housekeeping. When he needed a fire he would go into the woods and find a dry pole which he gradually pushed through the stove as it burned up. Beneath the stove was a convenient hole in the floor through which the ashes fell. Cooking was done once a week, a kettle of pork and a kettle of potatoes, which stood on the table until they were emptied. Occasionally he baked bread which was a source of great annoyance. As he was kneading his dough, deeply pondering a legal problem he would often forget himself and run his hand through his hair as was a habit of his. A little dough would usually stick to his bushy locks. When he had gone to bed, impudent rats would come and nibble at these clumps of dough in his hair to Ole's great pain and disturbance.

These nightly attacks by the rats were the greatest trial Ole had ever encountered. They were worse than the pettifoggers who had fleeced him of his patrimony. They disturbed his quiet cogitations before slumber overtook him, they turned his sleep into a bedlam of nightmares, they made him an object of ridicule among the young people after he had thoughtlessly confided his grief to a visitor. Long he pondered how to stop this nightly torture. Finally he hit upon a most promising plan.

Ole Sorenson had a wolf trap—a trap with a powerful steel spring with a long chain attached to it. He borrowed this trap and baited it with a tempting bit of bacon. He then placed the trap on his pillow and carefully laid down beside it. Now he felt prepared to meet the meanest rat on earth.

But Ole Klungeland had other enemies in bed besides rats. As he laid there chafing and rubbing the trap slid farther and farther down into the bed until it rested in a pocket in the middle of it. Finally, in his sleep, Ole rolled over and settled squarely on top of it. The trap snapped and caught him with a fiendish grip in a fleshy portion of his posterior region. With a howl of agony Ole jumped

out of bed. He pulled and pressed, trying to get the thing loose, but in his awkward position he could not seem to master the mechanism. Finally in despairing torture he started down the trail, his trousers in one hand, the chain in the other, and got Sven Anderson out of bed to liberate him.<sup>1</sup>

Among the queer characters who have lived in Fish Creek was also a "Doctor" Hale who for a time made things lively in the village. He and his wife were traveling members of the Kickapoo Indian Remedy Co. which was a cross between a circus and a patent medicine agency. He made a trade with L. L. Hill whereby he in the '90s acquired a farm in the east end of the village now owned by Doctor Welcker. His wife had been an equestrienne, or performer on bareback horses, and profoundly impressed the populace by dashing about on horseback in all manner of perilous postures. Not less were they impressed by "Doctor" Hale who carried in his pocket a \$1,000 bill, whether bogus or genuine is still debatable. This \$1,000 bill was remarkably efficacious in winning respect or securing credit in any transaction.

When E. S. Minor opened his campaign for the office of congressman, "Doctor" Hale let it be known that he had been Senator Gallinger's private secretary and had practically made the senator. He offered to give to Mr. Minor the accumulated wealth of his vast political experience and guaranteed his election if he were given free hands as campaign manager. Mr. Minor's friends in the village now felt that the entire election hinged on Mr. Hale's co-operation and beseeched Mr. Minor not to commit political suicide by refusing to engage Mr. Hale. Mr. Minor, however, stolidly refused the potent aid of the \$1,000 bill and went about getting elected just the same. It later developed that while Doctor Hale had come from the same state as Senator Gallinger, he had had no connection with the latter.

Doctor Hale now got political aspirations of his own and ran for town chairman. His opponent was L. L. Hill and there also existed between the two quite a business tangle. It is said that Hill and Hale had a h—l of a time but Hill finally won out both in business and politics and Hale took his \$1,000 bill to new fields of enterprise.

South of Fish Creek about three miles lies Juddville, now chiefly settled by Norwegian community that settled there in the '80s. Juddville is so called because Josiah Judd for a time was the only settler there. Nicolai Kihl joined him in 1869. A few years later the Scandinavians came and took possession of this excessively stony tract. Among the earliest was Otto Anderson. He had seventeen children, of which twelve are still living.

The best portion of Gibraltar by far is the southeastern quarter of the town. For some reason this land was not pre-empted until in the '70s when it was settled by a sturdy class of Germans. The first of these was George Reinhard who set-

<sup>1</sup> In the Door County Advocate of January 8, 1880, is the following note on Ole Klungeland:

"Many of our citizens have no doubt lost all track of Ole Nelson, better known as 'Klingland' who years ago figured in every term of court, either as plaintiff or defendant. In fact he lawed it so much that he was reduced from well-to-do to abject poverty, and a few years ago buried himself in the wilderness of the Town of Gibraltar, near the Eagle Bluff lighthouse, where he lives in perfect seclusion in filth and squalor. Those who have visited his den say it is the dirtiest hole they ever put foot into, and hardly fit for an animal to live in."

tled there in 1870. Shortly after him came Henry Pleck, Polzin, Franke and Reh. The Town of Baileys Harbor has always looked with avaricious eyes upon this fair corner of Gibraltar. In the '70s the county board was induced to transfer this portion of Gibraltar to Baileys Harbor. Gibraltar refused to recognize the validity of the transfer as it had less than thirty-six sections of land. Both towns sent their assessors into the disputed territory but as the freeholders refused to pay taxes to Baileys Harbor the latter town was finally obliged to relinquish her claim. Again in 1917 an attempt was made to transfer the taxes from this part of the town to Baileys Harbor for high school purposes. The residents however remained loyal to Gibraltar and Baileys Harbor again lost out. The people of Gibraltar have now practically unanimously voted ample funds to build and equip a high school which is expected to be completed in the summer of 1918. This will be the first high school in the county outside of Sturgeon Bay.

The fishing industry has now practically ceased in Fish Creek and it has become instead one of the chief summer resort centers of the county. This had its beginning in 1894. In that year Mr. Legler (then secretary of schools in Milwaukee, late librarian of the Chicago public library) found his way to Fish Creek. He bought some lots now owned by Mr. Geo. M. Clark. In 1895 he returned with Mr. Edward Risan, principal of the Milwaukee South Side High School. He also purchased lots. The Crundons of St. Louis and others also came to Fish Creek this year and E. C. Thorp was obliged to enlarge his house to accommodate them. Through Mr. Risan Dr. Herman Welcker was induced to come to Fish Creek. In 1896 Doctor Welcker contracted to buy from Asa Thorp his hotel, 32 lots, one mile of shore front, and a farm of 500 acres for \$5,000. The doctor started to farm with trotting horses and was not successful. The contract was therefore annulled. Mr. Thorp then offered him one mile of shore front for \$200. This land is now assessed at about \$35,000. E. C. Thorp and Dr. H. Welcker are now the largest summer hotel operators in the county, each catering to about one hundred and fifty guests.

The saddest memory in the history of Fish Creek is the wreck of the steamer E. L. Hackley whereby eleven persons were drowned. On October 3, 1904, the steamer left Marinette for Egg Harbor. A high wind from the southwest had been blowing all day but at 5:45 P. M. Captain Vorous set out. In the vicinity of Green Island a squall came from the southwest which caught the steamer on the starboard side and threw her to the port, a position from which she was unable to recover. In a few moments the cabin was wrenched off the boat and thrown into the sea. Immediately afterward the hull filled with water and sank. The drowned were Capt. Joseph Vorous, Carl Pahlke, Hugh Miller, Henry Robertoy, Lawrence Barringer, Edna Barringer, Geo. Le Clair, Nels Nelson, Edna Vincent, Ethel Vincent and Freeman Thorp.

When the boat was filling with water a number of persons jumped for the floating cabin and managed to cling to it through the long, savage hours of the following night. Some finally were unable to hold on any longer and were washed off and drowned. About 8 o'clock the following morning the steamer Sheboygan spied the wreckage then floating near the Door County shore and rescued the survivors who were still clinging to the cabin. The rescued were Orin Rowin, Blaine McSweeney, Milton Hanson, John Haltug, F. Mathiesen, Martin Olson, Milton

Olson and F. C. Blakefield. Nearly all of the persons on the steamer were from Fish Creek.

The E. R. Hackley was seventy-nine feet long, with a capacity of fifty-seven tons. She was not considered very seaworthy and Government inspectors were blamed for permitting her to carry passengers.

## CHAPTER XXXVII

### A TERRIBLE EXPERIENCE

For sixty or seventy years the Green Bay basin has been the most productive fresh water fishing grounds in the United States. The large rivers of clear cold water that pour into it from the great Wisconsin woods serve to make it the favorite feeding ground for the cunning trout, the wandering whitefish and the humble herring. Each year millions of fish have been taken out of its waters without showing any signs of its depletion. It is common to talk of the "good old days" when the nets were always full and the sturgeon were stacked up like huge stone piles on the beach—unsalable because of their abundance. Yet, even nowadays the fisherman frequently lifts a net that yields fifty or sixty half-barrels of herring in one lift.

It was the fishing that first drew people to Door County. For almost a generation this was considered her only possibility and the land was looked upon merely as a necessary point of attachment for their nets. From the ranks of the early fishermen many of Door County's best men were drawn to the more sedate but sure occupations of farming and business. Most of the fishermen, however, never got beyond that station in life. They were alert and indefatigable as beavers when on the water, enduring hardships innumerable without a whimper, but lazy and indifferent as porcupines when on land. They were an easy-coming, easy-going class. Their quick earnings were spent as quickly. Dauntless in danger when on the deep they often experienced thrilling adventures.

The best fishing has usually been found near the long, low shore north of Menominee. Frequently fishermen from Door County would cross over to this "West shore" and try their luck in the fall fishing, returning with their boats, nets and part of their profits to Door County shortly before Christmas to lay up for the winter.

One fall about 1860 there were among others three such fishermen on the west shore. They were Ingham Kinsey and Bill Stahl from Washington Island, and Allen Bradley with his boy, from Hedgehog Harbor. They used gill nets, 180 feet long, set in from six to ten feet of water. The whitefish were so numerous that fall that frequently the nets had to be cleared of fish several times during the night. Two hundred whitefish, weighing from three to six pounds each, were frequently taken from a net at each lift.

Pleased with their success they kept on with their fishing until rather late in December. Finally the day came when they decided to pull up for home. They loaded their nets and winter's supplies into their boats and pushed off.

The day was a cold and cloudy one with a rather steady wind from the southwest which promised to land them on Washington Island in speedy time. It was their plan to keep the boats close together for Kinsey and Stahl were alone in their

respective boats which rendered their navigation somewhat difficult. For a long time they got along very well. Finally it began to get dark and with that the wind swung around to the northeast, blowing briskly dead ahead. It soon veered to the north, blowing furiously while the weather became intensely cold, the mercury falling almost to zero. By this time the boats had become separated and lost to the sight of each other and each man struggled as best he could.

But it was a desperate and useless struggle. The flying spray had saturated their clothing and now every outer garment was frozen stiff. Their sails were also frozen and unmanageable and each rope, halliard and sheet was soon like a rod of steel. Meanwhile the wind was shrieking, the waves roaring, the mighty storm tossing their clumsy craft where it would. They felt the numbness of intense cold and despair creeping over them. Through the darkness of the night they were driving irresistibly onward to their doom.

Allen Bradley's boat had outdistanced the others, having two men to navigate it. Bradley was moreover a tremendously strong man with the endurance of a wild animal. In the coldest weather he was never known to wear coat, overcoat or mittens.<sup>1</sup> As he sat in his ice encased garments, gradually feeling his limbs turn to the numbness of death, his ear suddenly detected a sound different from the roar of the storm. It was the booming of the sea on the rock-bound shore of Door County! With sudden life he jumped to the foremast and with a tremendous wrench tore it out of its frozen socket. Another jerk or two and the spar and foresail were also thrown overboard. He then seized the oars and seconded by the feeble but earnest efforts of his son he got the heavy laden, ice incrustated boat under control. Tugging incessantly at the oars with the flying spray turning into an ever increasing load of ice on the boat, he managed to keep it clear of the shore. After two hours of this work he was finally rewarded in turning the point of a little cove and found himself safe in Fish Creek.

There was great surprise in the little village the next morning when it was learned that Allen Bradley had arrived during the night. The cold had been so intense and the gale so terrific that it seemed incredible that anyone could have survived it in an open boat covered with ice. It was generally agreed that the other two fishermen must have perished but some abortive attempts were made along the shore to discover their bodies. A heavy fall of snow, however, had covered everything with a cloak of white.

Toward evening a searching party saw a slowly moving body about a mile away. At first they thought it was a bear because it was moving on four legs. They approached nearer and to their surprise they saw it was a man moving painfully through the snow on his hands and knees. It was Ingham Kinsey! During the preceding night he had been hurled almost insensible with cold on the beach four miles south of Fish Creek. His boat had been smashed on the rocks. During the night and the next day he had staggered along the beach, first south then north, vainly looking for a human habitation in the unsettled wilderness. Finally his limbs refused to support him and with the last fragment of endurance he was crawling along, his hands and feet frozen, when he was discovered and saved.

Meanwhile, where was Bill Stahl?

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<sup>1</sup> For a further account of this remarkable man see the chapter on The Giant of Gills Rock.



Wm. Stahl was a famous water dog who had survived so many adventures on the water that he believed himself immune from death in that element. He had built both his own boat and the one that Kinsey had and had unbounded faith in them. Yet he recalled now that his boats had a bad reputation. So many accidents had occurred with his boats that it was a common saying on Washington Island that a Bill Stahl boat and a bottle of whiskey were a combination which would kill anyone. He had the combination right there under him. Was it after all going to prove true with him?

As he felt his boat settling deeper and deeper with its load of ice, becoming quite unmanageable, he gave up all attempts at navigating her and devoted all his energies to keeping his hands and feet from freezing. But it was a practically useless effort. He was soaked with water and ice, more ice was forming around him.

As he listened to the shrieking of the wind, the swish of the white caps and the heavy thud of a wave striking his bow in the trough of the sea it seemed that the resistless cavalry of hell was hitched to his boat dragging it furiously onward to that brink where he would tumble over into the next world—

As he sat there with uncanny fancies flitting through his disordered mind, his boat suddenly struck hard on a rock! Before he realised what happened another wave followed, throwing the boat up on a rocky beach while he was thrown out into the water. The water seemed almost warm in comparison with the intensely cold wind he had been exposed to.

He scrambled out and looked around him but nothing could be seen in the darkness. However, now that he was on firm land he felt new hope within him. He would strike out at once following the shore till he came to a boat house or human habitation. He stumbled over the driftwood that littered the shore, slipped on the stones but struggled on. He felt his limbs were not yet frozen and with good luck he would yet reach a shelter. Suddenly he stopped amazed!

There in front of him was another overturned boat lying in exactly the same position as his!

He reached into the bow of the boat and pulled out an oblong box. It was his boat. Here was his toolbox!

He stared vacantly at the boat. How could it be his boat? He must have turned in his tracks and retraced his steps. What he losing his mind?

He started off along the shore once more, keeping the water on his left, the land on his right. He walked carefully to avoid confusion. At the end of a half hour he was again in front of the boat!

Suddenly he realised the situation. He was on an island and the reason he had come twice upon the boat was that he had walked twice around the island.

By this time it was beginning to get light in the east. Looking in that direction he could now distinguish the high cliffs of Door County. Straining his eyes to the northward he could also dimly discern a long low shore which must be Chambers Island. He now recognized where he was. He was cast ashore on Hat Island, a barren little rock growing a few stunted trees about five miles southwest of Fish Creek.

The dejection that followed upon this discovery struck him like a blow. He felt excessively weary. He had toiled and struggled and suffered all through the storm of the night before, his clothing was frozen stiff, he felt numb with cold to the marrow. He wanted to sink down and forget it all in a moment of slumber.

Suddenly he started up. In his pocket was a match box filled with matches. There were birch trees on the island. He needed but a little bark and in a few moments he would have a fire.

Feverishly he stripped some bark off the birches, broke some dry twigs off the trees and struck a match. It refused to ignite. He struck another and another till the box was half empty. Still no success. Then he examined the matches carefully and found they were all watersoaked. Still clinging to hope he struck the matches with greater care than before till the last was tried in vain.

Almost stunned by this result he went through his pockets one after another. Some were so frozen he had to tear them apart with main force. What chance had he unless he could make a fire. In his exhausted condition he could not endure it another hour. In his hip pocket was his can of tobacco. It had a tight-fitting cover. He opened it and found it almost empty of tobacco. But down there among the tobacco crumbs lay a match. He could see no sign of moisture inside of the can. He poured out a little tobacco in his hand and examined it critically. It seemed as dry as ever. If the tobacco was dry it was likely that the match was dry also. He carefully refrained from touching it, however, lest his clumsy fingers might drop it in the snow.

One humble, forgotten match! Yet it might mean another lifetime for him!

With this thought in mind he once more made his preparations for a fire. This time, however, he proceeded with much greater care than before. First he carefully picked out the spot on the island which seemed most sheltered from the wind. Then he made a windbreak out of his frozen sail which he propped up with a number of supports. Then he gathered a good sized pile of dry twigs and birch bark. Finally he carefully gathered up a lot of dry leaves which he found under a log. These he tested for dryness, one by one before he put them in their place. Finally he selected a flat dry stone, not too rough, under the same log. This was to strike his match on.

He took out the match but hesitated to strike. What if it were defective? What if it broke and fell into the snow? What if the tinder refused to ignite? No more boats would sail the bay till next spring. No travelers would pass on the ice for a month or two. He knew that within an hour or two his stiff limbs would be frozen. On the outcome of that match hung life or death.

Lifting the match in silent supplication to heaven, he scratched the stone gently. It failed to spark. He felt the sweat break out underneath his sodden garments and he tried again with greater force. The flame burst out and he thrust it down among the dry leaves. There followed an interminable interval. Finally the thin veil of white smoke was followed by a leaping flame. Carefully he fed the fire with birch bark, twigs and sticks until he soon had a large fire blazing. He was saved!

Toward evening it occurred to him that he ought to have his fire out on the beach where it might attract attention from the mainland. He made a roaring bonfire fed with stumps and logs, snatching a nap intermittently.

This fire was soon seen from Fish Creek. When the good people of Fish Creek found Kinsey that evening they appointed a lookout to patrol the beach and keep a watch for Stahl. About midnight the village was electrified into life by hearing this lookout shout in the street:

"Bill Stahl on Hat Island! Bonfire blazing!"

Quickly a willing crowd gathered at the pier to lend a hand in the rescue. But how were they to launch a boat? The heavy gale had packed a sheet of anchor ice into the harbor a mile deep. This had frozen together into a solid mass in many places two feet thick. Meanwhile the storm was still roaring and it needed a good vessel to weather the seas. Axes were found and the whole village went to work to cut a channel. By 9 o'clock the next morning a channel was cut a mile long and the best vessel in port was towed out. Sails were bent and by noon Bill Stahl saw sweeping down on him a white winged carrier of life.

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[The above narrative was told to the writer by ex-Congressman E. S. Minor who can vouch for its truthfulness. He was one of the rescuing party.]

## CHAPTER XXXVIII

### LIBERTY GROVE

Liberty Grove, the largest town in Door County, may be divided into three parts. In the southern part of the town is the large and compact "German settlement," lying between the villages of Ephraim, Sister Bay and Baileys Harbor. In the center, east and northeast of Sister Bay, is a large Swedish settlement with a few Norwegians mixed in. In the northern part, extending to the very tip of the peninsula, is a large Norwegian settlement with some Swedes and Germans mixed in. Representatives of other nationalities are few and far between.

#### THE GERMAN SETTLEMENT

The present settlements of Liberty Grove are largely outgrowths of the early Norwegian colony at Ephraim. The first settlers were originally members of this colony. Among them was John Thoreson; a Norwegian who settled at Little Sister Bay in 1854. He was for many years a prominent man in the town, was a political boss and had a pier over which he shipped much cordwood and other timber products. Another well known early Norwegian was Zacharias Morbek. He was a member of the original Norwegian Moravian colony which settled in Ephraim, was a man of some education and for some time held most of the town offices in the Town of Gibraltar. Later other candidates for political honors began to usurp what he considered his prerogatives. In disgust he complained that liberty was dying out in Gibraltar and in order that he might again have matters under his own hand he got a portion of Gibraltar set off in 1859 as a separate town. This he called Liberty Grove, meaning by that that liberty (the Morbek brand) had there found a home. For many years he was very successful and had the office of clerk, treasurer, assessor and justice of the peace.

Byron (Björn) Aslagson was another very early Norwegian settler, settling there in 1858. He lived two miles east of Ephraim. Like his neighbors and countrymen, Morbek and Thoreson, he was also a very prominent figure in early town politics and was a very competent man.

In the first company of Moravians who settled at Ephraim in 1853 was one German. His name was Gottfried Matthe, from Bavaria. In 1857, while on a trip to Green Bay, he met some German emigrants looking for land and persuaded them to accompany him to Ephraim. These were Wilhelm Dorn and Christian Hempel. They were from Pomerania, or Hinter Pommern, in East Prussia. Dorn and Hempel took land in Liberty Grove back of Ephraim and became the founders of the large German settlement of whom nearly all are from Hinter Pommern. Among the earliest were Carl Stoeber and Wilhelm Sturm who came in 1865, August Stoeber, and Fritz, Frantz and Ferdinand Schmidt, who came in 1866; August Rowe, Ludwig Heling, Carl Mogenburg, and Herman, Ferdinand, Fritz and Johan Mueller, who

came in 1867. Albert Schmidt came in 1872, Henrik Strege in 1873 and Carl Schultz in 1874.

All these people were from Pomerania in Eastern Prussia, where the people were kept in conditions of great servility and poverty due to the all powerful domination of the Grafs, or landlords, who owned all the land. The bulk of the population had no chance to acquire farms but were compelled to spend their time as humble laborers or tenants on the estates of the proud junkers.<sup>1</sup>

When, therefore, Wilhelm Dorn wrote to his friends in Hinter Pommern that here in America all men were equal; that fertile land in large areas could be had for nothing; that laboring men received as much per month here as they received per year in Prussia—the news seemed too good to be true. "Surely," thought some, "Wilhelm Dorn has become the unscrupulous agent of some greedy concern or power that wishes to entrap us!" But little by little the more venturesome followed his advice and emigrated. And here in Liberty Grove they settled around him and converted a very stony tract of timber into a beautiful farming community. They now maintain two churches in their midst and have one of the best graded schools in the county.

Among the early German settlers was also Carl Seiler, a son-in-law of Gottfried Matthe. He settled on the present Seiler farm, one of the best in Liberty Grove, in 1860. This farm lies high up on the ridge about a mile and a half from the Ephraim bay. Carl Seiler, Jr., who now lives in Gibraltar, tells how he made a rough wooden wheelbarrow on which he placed a half-barrel. This half-barrel he trundled every day through the woods to the bay for water. On washdays he made two trips.

One of the bitterest memories of pioneer days that these settlers recall is the cruel fleecing they suffered at the hands of a pair of unscrupulous horse traders. In the '80s, when they were just emerging from their first struggle with the forest, two smooth-tongued Jews by the names of Henry Hamill and Leopold Jacobs appeared among them. They had horses to sell and as the pioneers needed horses to haul their cordwood and do their farming a rushing business in horses was soon made. The price of the horses was not unreasonable and was paid for in notes secured by real estate or chattel mortgages. Soon, however, a serious defect developed in one or both the animals. They were badly mated, balky, or suffered from some disease or other. At intervals the Jews came around, sympathizing and helpful and soon a trade was arranged with a large amount of money to boot. The new animals, however, quickly developed new defects. The Jews again came around, telling of a splendid lot of horses just received and a new trade was arranged. In this way the pioneer was lured on adding note to note until he discovered that his third rate team of horses had cost him from a thousand to fifteen hundred dollars. A great many were unable to pay these notes when due and were ruthlessly sold out, farm, stock and implements, to pay for a pair of indifferent nags which were also swept away in the deluge. On the state road north of Baileys Harbor there were in 1890 no less than thirteen deserted farms in one neighborhood whose owners had been sold out on mortgages given to these unscrupulous horse traders for their worthless animals.

<sup>1</sup> For a further account of the conditions of life in Pomerania see the chapter on the German Settlement in Forestville and Nasewaupée.

It is estimated that these crafty rascals despoiled the unsuspecting, trusting farmers of Liberty Grove of almost a hundred thousand dollars. The bitter agony of seeing the fruits of their best years of toil swept away to pay for a fraud will never be forgotten.

#### SISTER BAY AND APPLEPORT

The Swedish settlement lying between Sister Bay and Appleport is one of the prettiest farming sections in Door County. The land is gently rolling, comparatively free from stone and apparently very fertile. The improvements are substantial and neat. Altogether this little part of the county will compare favorably with any part of the state.

When viewing this beautiful section of the county it is hard to believe that practically all of it was a timbered wilderness as late as 1880. Yet such is the fact. The first settlers came there about ten years earlier with no thought of farming. They came to make a temporary living as woodchoppers, believing that when the timber was cut the value of the land was exhausted.

The history of the Swedish settlement begins with Gustav Carlson who in the fall of 1867 with a dozen other Swedes came to Ephraim to cut wood for John Anderson, a member of the Norwegian community at Ephraim. He lived within a mile of Sister Bay but at that time there was no business of any kind at Sister Bay. These thirteen Swedes the following winter all bunked in a shanty which stood on the land now owned by Charles Magnet. Gustav Carlson was far-sighted and bought a tract of land north of Sister Bay. However, he and the other twelve woodchoppers left Door County in spring and did not return for many years.

In 1868 came another contingent of woodchoppers. Several of these bought land and became permanent settlers. Among these was Andrew Seaquist whose descendants are still living in the settlement. Andrew Seaquist was therefore in one sense the father of the settlement. He was a quiet, deeply religious man, unlike most of his woodchopping countrymen, who, under the conditions then existing, were a boisterous, carefree class of people.

In 1870 Sister Bay was opened up as a shipping point. A firm known as Henderson, Coon & Dimond built a pier at the head of Sister Bay. Thomas Dimond was the leading man in this business. A large sawmill and grist mill was built and two or three stores and a hotel were opened up. The company also owned much land. About 1878 Andrew Roeser, who came from Belgium, became the owner of the property. His son Adolph Roeser still owns and runs the mills and the pier. Due chiefly to the business brought in by Roeser's grist mill and sawmill Sister Bay became a place of great importance in the county and much business centered there. Being ambitious to magnify itself the village was incorporated in 1912. Since then, however, the village has rather gone backward than forward.

Across the bay on the east side, at the place still known as Wiltse's pier, Judson and Archibald Wiltse built another pier about 1870. These brothers were from England and Judson Wiltse was one of the first to clear a farm near Sister Bay. It is still in the possession of his son. Patrick Dimond had the farm now owned by John Lagerquist and built the house which is still in use and is the oldest house in this part of Liberty Grove.

With the opening of shipping facilities at Sister Bay there was a great demand

for woodchoppers in the forests of Liberty Grove. A great many Swedes came over from Marinette to fill this want. As land was very cheap many of them bought land and stayed to become substantial farmers. Among these were Charles Apple, Sr., with his sons, Axel, Charles and Sander, August Kellstrom, Fred Dahlstrom, Sven Hilander, Henry Larson, Louis Peterson and John Evenson. There were, however, scores of others who came only to cut wood and having no faith in farming, faded away to other slashings. They were big, strapping fellows, chopping wood from fall to fall, often making four cords per day, drinking, fighting and eating what they liked. Among them was in particular a Swedish giant by the name of John A. Johnson, but commonly known as Long John. He is famous as the champion woodchopper of the region but is equally famous for his tremendous appetite. James Hanson, a storekeeper of Sister Bay, had a case containing five dozen eggs standing on his counter. To test Long John's appetite he wagered \$5 that Long John could not eat them up in one meal. Long John accepted the wager on condition that he be allowed a pint of whiskey. This was granted. Long John consumed the entire sixty eggs, drank his whiskey and then went home and ate a loaf of bread and a pan of milk.

Those rough and ready days, however, in due time came to an end. In 1877 a few Swedish families organized a Baptist congregation which little by little grew until it supplanted all other interests in the community. This congregation is now one of the most energetic churches in the county. Largely through its influence saloons have been banished from Liberty Grove and Sister Bay. Under its efficient leadership the young and old for miles around gather in church for moral uplift and new ideas. The healthy atmosphere of the church and the splendid singing, characteristic of Swedish voices, make it one of the most interesting places in the county to visit. Besides the Baptist Church there is also in the same vicinity a Lutheran Church and a Moravian Church, chiefly made up of Swedish membership. In the Village of Sister Bay there is a Catholic Church. The history of these churches is given elsewhere.

North of Sister Bay about a mile, at a place now known as Liberty Park, quite a summer resort colony has sprung up. The founder of this was Abraham Carlson, a son of Gustav Carlson, who opened a hotel about 1900. For many years it was considered a foolish venture to open a summer hotel so far from any village center. However, while the Village of Sister Bay is still waiting for its first summer resorter, there are now at Liberty Park three large summer hotels and a number of cottages.

#### ELLISON BAY AND BEYOND

Far back in 1854 there was one day in the spring great activity on Door Bluff. A party of Green Bay promoters had visited the place the year before and believing they had discovered evidence of a rich marble deposit they had now returned with many men to open a marble quarry. A large pier was built, a village was laid out on top of the bluff and soon was heard the lively blasts of powder used in quarrying the stone. The marble proved, however, to be in too thin layers to make quarrying profitable and after a couple of years the quarry was abandoned. Before the place was entirely deserted, however, something occurred which for a long time made Door Bluff famous among mariners and in newspapers.

About a hundred years ago there was on the face of this or Table Bluff an Indian painting, undoubtedly made to commemorate the disaster which gave rise to the name of Death's Door. Samuel C. Stambaugh mentions it in 1831. He writes, "On the face of the rocks fifteen or twenty feet above the surface of the water, there are figures of Indians and canoes painted Indian fashion, which must have been done with much difficulty, and by the help of scaling ladders, during a dead calm on the lake."<sup>2</sup>

It is probable that in 1856 these tracings were still partly visible or at least remembered. At any rate there was a man by the name of Charles Schulten who at that time lived in one of the houses on top of the bluff. He had a small vessel which he used in trading among the fishermen and in which he carried a few supplies needed by them. Having on hand some red paint and having some ability in wielding the brush he determined to do what he could to preserve an ancient tradition. Accordingly he devoted part of his idle hours in painting a thrilling scene of considerable magnitude. It represented a violent storm on the water. In the midst of it was a fleet of canoes filled with men whose costume indicated that they were Indians. Some of the canoes had capsized and left their occupants struggling in the water. Others had reached a rocky shore up which they were clambering only to be killed by other Indians evidently a hostile force, who clinging to the rocks and bushes with their tomahawks, dispatched the Indians in the water as fast as they reached the shore. Roughly executed but with bold strokes and a free fancy it soon attracted the attention of the seafarers. Having some resemblance to the famous pictured rock of Lake Superior it was supposed to have had the same origin and for many years the pictured rocks of Door Bluff were viewed and described with great interest.

The Sturgeon Bay Advocate as late as May 20, 1886, states that there were still some traces of the painting left at that time.

The waters of "the Door" bordering on the northern part of Liberty Grove have from time immemorial been a favorite fishing place. Many early fishermen have therefore, no doubt, had their homes in this part of Liberty Grove. The earliest of which we have any record is Allen Bradley, who in the early '50s had a home at Gills Rock. It is very likely he was the first permanent settler in the town. An account of him is given in a separate chapter. The next one of whom there is any knowledge was a Norwegian who at the time of the Civil war lived on top of the hill east of Gills Rock. His name was Avle Simonson and he had previously been a member of the early stone quarry colony that had a village on Door Bluff. He is remembered by few, however, as he came to a tragic end in 1877, when the town was still sparsely settled.

One morning in February, 1877, Avle Simonson and his son, Alfred, sailed from Ellison Bay in their fishing boat with a passenger for Detroit Harbor. The passenger was Miss Dora Higgins (later Mrs. Albert Kalmbach) who was going to Washington Island to teach school. They arrived at Detroit Harbor about noon and as the wind was fair they started immediately for their home. They had not gone far, however, before a blinding snowstorm out of the northwest descended upon them, shutting out all vision except immediately around the boat.

<sup>2</sup> See his Report on Wisconsin Territory, printed Wisconsin Historical Collections, Vol. XV, page 424.



Huge ice floes were encountered barring their progress, making it necessary for them to lower the sail and by help of the bars to make detours to the right and left. Sometimes open lanes of water were found, promising an exit, only to prove a blind pocket in which their boat was in danger of being crushed.

So often had they turned and twisted in the blinding snow storm that they no longer knew in which direction they were going. They became dizzy and the storm seemed to buffet them from every quarter of the compass. Finally after hours of struggling with their ice-laden boat they could no longer struggle with the oars but pulled them in and huddled up to withstand, if possible, the bitter cold of the night that was descending. Keenly they stared out through the gloom of the storm and the night, hoping to see a headland or hear the surge of the sea upon the beach. Nothing was seen, however, but the snowflakes driven slantwise into the choppy sea. And while they drifted and stared the numbness of death gradually crept upward and inward upon the two fishermen until it changed the keen look of their eyes turned landward into a glassy stare.

Their friends in Ellison Bay waited in vain for the return of the fishermen. The wind which had been from the northeast had changed to the northwest but was still favorable for a speedy return providing no obstacles were encountered. In "the Door," however, where the drifting ice floes from many directions met to jostle each other, no man could rely on the wind or the ice for a safe return. Several days went by and the two fishermen were finally given up as lost.

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About the middle of the following March the ice began to break up and was driven southward into Lake Michigan close to shore. One day Wm. Sanderson, the lightkeeper of Cana Island, chanced to look out and saw a boat drifting by imbedded in the ice. In the boat sat two men and their positions were so natural that the lightkeeper at first thought they were alive. As the boat approached nearer he saw that they did not move and soon he realized that the two mariners were both dead. In the stern sat an old man with his arms folded, slightly bent forward, resting them upon his knees. His face, with the expression of one straining every nerve to see or hear something, was turned toward the shore. On his cap was some frozen snow, and from his gray hair and beard hung icicles. The young man, like his father, had his arms folded, looking directly before him out of glassy eyes, which had the same expression. They had abandoned the oars, but not hope. The bodies drifted by and were never found nor was the boat again heard of.

Such has been the experience of many a man in "Death's Door." Valiantly but vainly he has struggled against the wind, the current and the ice until finally he has been carried a captive into Lake Michigan there to be engulfed.

The chief factor in the promotion of the settlement of the northern part of Liberty Grove was a Dane by the name of John Ellison (Eliassen). After him is named Ellison Bay. He came to Ephraim in 1854 and was for many years a member of the Ephraim community. At Ephraim he owned an exceedingly poor and stony forty of land and made but little progress. By 1870, however, he must have accumulated some means as we then find him at Ellison Bay preparing to build a large pier and systematically advertising in the newspapers for settlers.

The pier was built in 1872 and also a store. One or both of these must have been profitable as Ellison in 1878 was the owner of 8,000 acres of land.

Among the settlers who came to Ellison Bay as a result of his advertising were a number of Norwegian woodchoppers from Ephraim. These were Hans and Ole Tostenson, Martin Olson and Lars Larson. These bought land in the vicinity of Ellison Bay in the early '70s. Hans Tostenson soon opened a store and built a pier for shipping wood at Gills Rock. Here he became a person of great importance and was called the "King of Gills Rock." Andrew Weborg, another Norwegian who had bought out Allen Bradley's claim in 1874, was another man of influence at Gills Rock. This harbor, formerly known as Hedgehog Harbor, received its later name in honor of Elias Gill, a timber operator who also had a pier there and about thirteen hundred acres of land. At Newport was another pier, store, mill and postoffice. Hans Johnson and Peter Knudson, both of Danish extraction opened and operated this business. The Newport pier was built in 1879 and in 1882 a postoffice was established there.

At Garrett Bay another pier for shipping timber, with its accompanying store were built in 1882 by Andrew Nelson, another Dane. He shipped about 3,000 cords of wood annually and personally owned about 600 acres of land. In 1887 he also opened a stone quarry. Andrew Nelson was a prominent factor in town politics and for many years was register of deeds. He died in 1909 while holding this office. His widow has now (in 1916) built a pleasant summer hotel at Garrett Bay.

At Rowleys Bay, Daniel H. Rice started to get out cedar about 1857. He gave up the business soon which was later taken up by Osborne, Coxwell & Co. from Racine. They shipped a large amount of timber until 1876 when the lands, about four thousand acres, were bought by S. A. Rogers. He built a large mill there which is still in operation and is one of the oldest mills in the county.

Rowleys Bay, or rather Mink River, a sluggish stream emptying into it, bears evidence of having been a favorite camping place for Indians. Many relics and evidences of village sites have been found there. When D. H. Rice settled there in 1857 he found a large cross planted near the path which led across the peninsula at this point and he reported that the Indians showed adoration for the cross. This cross may signify that here had been a chapel established by the early French Jesuits or it may be the survival of a memento to mark the visit of a Jesuit missionary.

Further facts of Rowleys Bay's interesting history are given in another chapter.

North Bay was another great shipping point in early days. As early as 1870 a postoffice was established there with J. L. Ramsay as postmaster. North Bay did a large business for many years and its enterprising promoters hoped to make it the business center of Northern Door County. In 1880 Richard Erwin & Co. owned 5,000 acres of land there and systematically advertised for settlers. Wm. Marshall was their manager. Now he is the only remnant of the business that once made this picturesque harbor famous in marine circles.

Due to its long shore line which made all tracts of land easily accessible, Liberty Grove was a famous place for woodchoppers and cedar workers. In 1882 there were no less than thirteen piers in the town all actively shipping timber products. The gross income from this business in that year was \$250,000. Com-

mission and freight took the greater part of this income but a little was left for the woodchoppers who toiled in the timber in winter and hoed potatoes in summer. Now the timber is practically all shipped and Liberty Grove is an excellent farming town.

An interesting fact is the discrimination which used to be shown against Liberty Grove by the county board when equalizing taxes. For instance, the assessment of Liberty Grove's real estate in 1874 was fixed by the county board at \$92,709 against Brussels \$42,390 and Sturgeon Bay (including the city) at \$68,675. The entire county was assessed at only \$702,415 for its real estate. Yet Liberty Grove in that year had the smallest population of any town in the county, having only one-third as many people as Brussels which had been largely settled for almost twenty years.

This soak-it-to-Liberty Grove attitude continued for many years. It originated in the '60s when the county's affairs were in the hands of three commissioners who did as they pleased. In 1867 Liberty Grove, having no representative on the county board, was assessed \$83,481 which was twice as much as Sturgeon Bay, four times as much as Brussels and one-sixth of the entire county's assessment. In 1869 its assessment was \$102,218, which was three times the assessment of Brussels, the oldest farming town in the county. In 1870 the commission form of government was discontinued and each town had a representative on the board. Byron Aslagson represented Liberty Grove and succeeded in getting the assessment materially reduced. It was still higher, however, than any town in the county with the exception of Sturgeon Bay. In 1871 Aslagson was succeeded by M. Kirsch and Liberty Grove's assessment shot up again. It continued near the head of the list, frequently even overtopping Sturgeon Bay for a great many years. For further information on this discrimination see the chapter on "Assessed Valuations of Door County Towns."

Liberty Grove is a very religious town, having no less than eight churches and congregations and four resident pastors. A fifth minister and a ninth congregation, a German Moravian Church known as Manasseh, until recent years was to be found two miles east of Ephraim. However, the church membership dwindled, the pastor moved away and the church was torn down to help in building the large Scandinavian Moravian Church at Appleport. The new graded school of District One now marks the site of Door County's Manasseh.

## CHAPTER XXXIX

### THE GIANT OF GILLS ROCK

At the extreme northern end of Door County a wide bay opens into the peninsula from the north. The eastern side of the bay is known as Gills Rock—so named after Elias Gill, who in the early '70s owned about one thousand three hundred acres of land in the vicinity with warehouse, fishing boats, pier, etc. The name of Gills Rock is a comparatively recent innovation. On old maps and among old settlers it is known as Hedgehog Harbor.

There was a man on Rock Island by the name of George Lovejoy. He had been a sergeant in the United States army and settled on Rock Island in 1836. Lovejoy was a famous hunter in many parts of Northeastern Wisconsin and had a remarkable faculty for almost anything he undertook. It was said he almost broke up the settlement on Rock Island by the bewitching, homesick melodies of old time songs he drew from his violin. He was also a master ventriloquist. Sometimes he would go out on the ice where an Indian was fishing and make the trout talk back to its captor in the most approved Chippewa dialect, to the poor Indian's terrorized amazement.

At an early date Lovejoy built a small sail vessel—said to be the first vessel built in Door County. One fall at the approach of winter his vessel was thrown on the beach near the present Gills Rock Pier. Next spring when he returned to launch her he found her so high above the water that he had to give it up. Later he returned with a companion by the name of Allen Bradley—a tremendously strong man—and with his help the boat was launched. During the spring and summer the porcupines had gnawed so many holes in her, however, that they had much difficulty in making her float.

When Lovejoy was ready to leave he offered to pay Bradley for his help. But Bradley would not accept anything. "I like this Hedgehog Harbor of yours so much," he said, "it is the pleasantest place I have found in the West, so I am going to build me a home here. Since you brought me here I will take nothing for my work." Allen Bradley then built a shanty just back of where the present pier stands, and in 1856 became the first settler in the vicinity of Hedgehog Harbor by which name it was afterward known.

Allen Bradley later became one of the epic characters of Door County. He was a good-natured, square dealing person, more than six feet tall but he was so broad that he rather looked stocky than tall. He measured more than four feet around the chest, he had hands as broad as shovels and was obliged to wear moccasins because no shoes could be bought that were big enough. All the old settlers in the northern part of the county speak of "Old Bradley, the timber chap, who lived like an Indian and could cut seven cords of body maple in a day." In those days crosscut saws had not yet come into use and the big maple trees were

all felled and cut up into cordwood with axes only. Bradley had a homemade affair as heavy as a maul and with his strength behind it, chips a pound apiece would fly at every stroke.

Bradley did not spend much time cutting cordwood, however. He was a leisurely fellow, hunting and fishing and tapping his maple trees. Money was not much needed except for the annual purchase of flour and knick knacks for the family. The deer that bounded through the timber gave him abundant food and the best of clothing. Maple sugar for his flap-jacks in the morning, a bear-steak for dinner, a whitefish for supper—furnished a menu that did not cost him 5 cents a day and which the choicest epicure of the metropolis could not surpass in quality. Life was easy.

This was before the days of keen eyed assessors, ready to fine every man who is foresighted enough to stack up a good woodpile in his back yard. It was before the state had inaugurated its present expensive system of making a public pet out of wild game—with game wardens prowling around in every thicket—for the purpose of providing an annual holiday for the leisure class. It was before county nurses were flying about with a flashlight seeking for a hollow tooth. Governmental interference had not yet become the public nuisance it now is. Life was simple.

Many stories are told of Allen Bradley's incredible strength. He had a twenty-four foot pound boat and he and his son were wont to pull this up on shore by taking hold one on each side. Once at Washington Harbor six men were vainly struggling to lift a big timber into place on the crib they were building. Bradley looked at them for a while and then when they sat down gasping after their ineffectual struggle, he lifted the log alone and placed it in position.

In Escanaba he and another strong man by the name of Call once took a job of stacking a cargo of salt barrels. The barrels weighed 300 pounds apiece and they were to be stacked in rows on the pier three tiers high. It was slow work to roll the barrels along and then together lift them up in place. The captain therefore, knowing what bears he had for longshoremen, arranged for a wager to see which of the two could keep it up longest to handle the barrels singly. Each man picked up his barrel by the chime, lifted it breast high and put it up. Call kept on till 3 o'clock when he quit the job but Bradley nonchalantly swung the barrels into place until the cargo was disposed of.

A schooner was once wrecked on Hanover Shoal. Allen Bradley took the job of salvaging the rigging. He cleaned her up alone from keel to truck including a 1,000 pound anchor which he loaded into his boat and carried ashore in Fish Creek.

Once, when living on Washington Island, he was in Ranney's store. W. P. Ranney to test his strength and provide some entertainment for the crowd around the store told Bradley that he would give him a barrel of flour providing he could carry it home. Without a word Allen Bradley picked up the barrel weighing 415 pounds and carried it home three miles without resting, followed by a respectful and admiring crowd.

He had a long thick beard and it was common amusement for some of his friends to seize this and hang suspended, whereupon Bradley would walk around the room seemingly unmindful of the burden imposed upon his chin. As the accomplishment of this feat depended on the muscles of the jaw many doubted his

ability to do this. In Green Bay a spirited wager was once made that he could not carry an ordinary man across the room in this manner. Bradley picked out Ransom Call, the heaviest man in the room, weighing 250 pounds, and asked him to grasp his beard. This was done and Bradley carried him with ease across the room, Call falling down exhausted at the end of the journey.

When the Civil war broke out he enlisted and carried his musket valiantly through many a battle. Once in a skirmish he became separated from the rest of his company and he was taken prisoner by the Confederates. His musket was taken from him and two soldiers were told off to conduct the prisoner to the rear, while the others were ordered off on another charge. No sooner did Bradley find himself alone with his two guards than he suddenly seized them by the neck with a grip of steel in either hand, swung them off their feet, and carried them like two squirming kittens back behind the Federal lines.

When the war was over and there was a general rush on the pension bureau, Allen Bradley did not join in the stampede. His strength was still intact and his sturdy independence as vigorous as ever. But after a dozen years or so old age came on. That red blood which had flowed so freely through his splendid body became chilled with his declining days and could no longer feed his massive frame. Those wonderful muscles, more tense than steel springs, became powerless and painful with rheumatism. Finally he became an object of charity and for five years stayed at the home of Capt. John Noyes who gave him the best care. Captain Noyes on his own behalf applied for a pension but the lords of Washington have many preoccupations. Years went by and no pension came. Finally Joseph Harris and Senator Sawyer were interested in the matter and a wretched pittance of \$4 per month was obtained. After interminable wire pullings this amount was gradually increased.

Not until he lay upon his death bed did the belated pension come.

Allen Bradley was born August 11, 1816. He came from Dunkirk, N. Y., to North Bay to cut cedar in 1855 but preferred to fish and hunt. He was almost impervious to cold, on the coldest days in winter wearing only a pair of trousers and one or two shirts. He was a striking example of the truth of the old proverb that "the race is not to the swift nor the battle to the strong." Although he had unusual opportunities and the wonderful strength more than necessary to develop them, he never held legal title to a foot of land and finally received a pauper's burial in the potters field. He died in Sturgeon Bay February 11, 1885.

## CHAPTER XL

### THE RISE AND FALL OF ROWLEYS BAY

About a thousand miles from New York and almost as far from a railroad lies Rowleys Bay. It is the last little cove of Lake Michigan to the northward dipping deep into a land of reeds and rushes, of mink and muskrat, of marshmallows and odorous balsams. At the head of the bay is a sluggish lagoon, masquerading under the name of Mink River. Here the pickerel in June are reckless and the black bass bite with abandon. Aside from these annual piscatorial activities Rowleys Bay is as quiet and secluded as the North Pole—as indolent as the sunrise of a June morning.

But the name of Rowleys Bay has not always been the synonym of peace and pickerel. There was a time when the commercial possibilities of Rowleys Bay were eagerly discussed from Chicago to Tacoma, and glowing lithographs eloquently describing financial investments at Rowleys Bay, possible and impossible, were scattered by the tens of thousands. But we are anticipating.

Away back in the early morning of Door County's history there was a man by the name of Peter Rowley. He was one of that eccentric tribe of western pioneers who feel themselves crowded to suffocation if they have a neighbor within a day's journey. In 1835 he became oppressed by the imaginary congestion of the little frontier post at Fort Howard. He packed his possessions into a boat and fled far to the northward past an uninhabited wilderness. Fifty miles away he came to Sturgeon Bay, as quiet and undisturbed as the morning after creation. Here at the mouth of the bay on the west side, where now stands Cabot's Lodge, he pitched his tent, thinking he had left civilization behind forever.<sup>1</sup>

But an evil fate pursued him. After a few years other eccentric pioneers followed his trail and settled in secluded coves not many miles away. On a real clear day he could see the smoke from their cabin chimneys rise above the tree-tops of the distant horizon. This was intolerable. Once more he fled from congestion.

He followed the shore of Door County to its extreme northern point. Not a living soul of white men had settled north of him on the peninsula and Peter Rowley grew hopeful. Then as his boat was bobbing on the waves of Death's Door passage his keen old eyes discerned the boat of a lonesome fisherman who lived at Washington Harbor, fifteen miles away. Sadly he rounded the point into Lake Michigan.

Where should he go? To the south of him lay Chicago and the pioneer camps of Milwaukee and Sheboygan. Restless fellows would soon push up the shore.

<sup>1</sup> Peter Rowley entered a tract of 50 acres, described as lot 1, section 23, town 28, range 25, later known as Sherwoods Point or Idlewild, on Nov. 5, 1838, being one of the earliest land entries within the limits of Door County.

In that direction lay no hope of peace. To the north was that impertinent fisherman of Washington Harbor. Where should he go?

Then he discovered Rowleys Bay. He examined it carefully and believed he had discovered an oasis in the desert of civilization. Swamps to the north of him, swamps to the south of him, the great lake in front of him—here surely was a spot where he might live and die in peace. Contentedly he reared his cabin on the shore and ate his venison and his fish. In times of extreme need he made up a raft of logs from the timber on the Government land around him. In this he was assisted by two women who lived with him. Whether they were his wives, sisters or mothers-in-law is not known. As far as we know he lived and died contentedly, his name preserved to posterity as the discoverer of Rowleys Bay.

Strictly speaking, Rowleys Bay was not discovered by Peter Rowley. A few years before he began to fish in Mink River some other white men camped there for several weeks and ate of its fish until they loathed the sight of it. The story of this adventure is as follows:

In 1834 Northern Door County was surveyed by a surveyor named John Brink and his assistants. One time in the fall of that year he found that provisions were running short and a messenger by the name of James McCabe was dispatched to Hamilton Arndt's trading post at Green Bay for supplies. Mounted on a trusty pony, named Polly, the messenger started off with the instructions that he was to join Brink and his men at a certain place near Death's Door in three weeks.

The trip to the Indian trader's was made without incident, but on his return, when not far from Death's Door, he was taken prisoner by a band of Indians, who thought he was a deserter from the army. McCabe was about one hundred yards from the pack horse at the time, having stopped in a grove to camp over night, and when the Indians seized him they did not know that he had a horse with him and they would not, or rather could not, let him explain, as he did not understand their dialect.

The Indians were sometimes called upon to assist the soldiers in running down deserters, and when they were of any assistance they were always supplied with a little whiskey for their services, and with the prospect in view of getting some "fire-water" for the return of McCabe to the Government fort they watched him carefully. The more he remonstrated the more the Indians imagined he was a deserter.

McCabe, therefore, not knowing but what the red men intended to burn him at a stake, was compelled to go with the Indians while Polly, with the pack of provisions, was left grazing in the little grove.

"Those fool Injuns actually made McCabe carry a canoe five miles across the peninsula," said Mr. Brink when telling the story, "and he was taken to Hamilton Arndt's headquarters, where the Injun trader had some difficulty in making the varmints believe that McCabe was not a deserter from the army.

"All this time, we, of course, were waiting for the packman at the place appointed and were without anything to eat, having waited two days, and lived during that time on nothing but hope. Still no packman, and we had no firearms to kill game, even if any could have been found. At the expiration of two days you can imagine that we were pretty hungry. We concluded to get something to eat when the third day rolled around, and we moved on toward the lake and discovered a little creek running into the big body of water.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> This stream was no doubt Mink River which was famous for its abundance of fish.



"As luck would have it the stream was full of fish, and we had no trouble in catching all the big fellows we wanted. There was one man in our party who was so hungry that he didn't even wait to cook the fish. He just scraped off the scales and chewed the stuff up almost before the finny creature was dead.

"For just eleven days we lived on nothing but roasted fish. It was fish for breakfast, fish for dinner and fish for supper, and you can better believe we were sick of fish before we got through with our experience. We had no salt or anything to flavor the stuff with; it was simply roast fish day after day. It sickened me of fish and I haven't eaten any since. It kept life in us however. When relief did come it came unexpectedly.

"The twelfth day that we arose to begin the day with a fish breakfast, we heard the tinkling of a bell, and on the crest of a little hill we saw old Polly. As soon as she discovered us she came galloping up, neighing as if overjoyed to see us. She was so pleased to see us that she actually laughed. I could see her eyes blaze with delight, and as she rubbed her nose against my shoulder she appeared to be brimful of happiness.

"The pack containing the pork and beans and flour was still strapped to her back, and you can wager all you have got that we had a good square meal that day. As far as we could learn Polly had gone back to the place from where McCabe had started with her, and not finding us there had wandered around the country following our trail, and finally discovered us.

"The next day McCabe appeared, having been released as soon as the Indian trader explained matters to his captors. He expected to find a rather sickly looking lot of men, and if he didn't find what he thought he would he certainly did a fishy crowd, for we were covered with scales and smelled like the inside of a whale."

The history of Rowleys Bay for the next thirty or forty years is a blank as far as human interest is concerned. Gradually the lumber companies found their way thither. Camps were built where the men sat in their bunks and swapped stories of the woods. A pier was built and huge cargoes of telegraph poles, ties and cordwood, were shipped. The work of destruction pursued the even tenor of its way.

In 1876 S. A. Rogers arrived from New York. He had a farm in Illinois which through the medium of a real estate agent he traded off for a vast acreage of land and water at Rowleys Bay. Unfortunately the land and the water were mixed together after a somewhat haphazard formula, constituting a 4,000 acre tract of swamp lands covered with a pretty good stand of cedar. Being a man of energy Mr. Rogers built a large sawmill which sometimes scaled a run of seven or eight million feet of sawed lumber in a season. He built a commodious pier along which nearly always lay a vessel or two loading. He also built a store and other buildings for the accommodation of the growing business of the place.

All this business centered on the cedars which were big enough to cut. But there were millions of cedars too small even to make a fence post. Of what use were they? Much cogitation on this subject followed.

About 1885 a man was found who solved this puzzle. This was J. H. Matthews of Milwaukee who understood the process of making cedar oil. He built a factory on the northeast side of Rowleys Bay where he employed about twenty-five men. Cedar twigs were cut and placed in a tank or retort. The dimensions of this retort were 4 by 22 by 8 feet, the top being convex. The steam from this retort was

taken up into a four-inch pipe and cooled and conducted through a succession of pipes of decreasing diameters placed zig zag fashion in the bed of a small creek fed by cold spring water. After the steam had meandered through these cold pipes for a distance of about two hundred feet it trickled into a receiving tank in the shape of limpid oil which sold at \$8 per gallon. For two years the business was pushed and paid very well.

Mr. Matthews was a man of enterprise and ambition. He reasoned that if good money could be made out of waste timber products in such an inaccessible place as Rowleys Bay, much more could be made if the business was enlarged and established in a more central place. Accordingly he pulled up his cooling pipes and moved to Marshfield where he undertook to make wood alcohol. He promptly failed in business and with this his part in the history of Door County is finished.

About 1892 Mr. Rogers found an opportunity of trading off several hundred acres of his swampy estate for a farm in Missouri. Through another trade this tract of swamp land was transferred to a Mr. Ditlef C. Hanson of Tacoma, Wash. In the course of time Mr. Hanson came to inspect his purchase.

He found the land lay too low for farming, too high for fishing. The timber was all gone. It was too inaccessible for a frog preserve and muck was drugged on the market. What was it good for?

Mr. Hanson had one great ambition in life. He had heard of other men laying out a townsite, waxing rich by the sale of building lots and famous by having the town named after them. He reasoned that since his Rowleys Bay possession was fit for nothing else, if it was not created in vain it must be intended for a townsite. True, it was wet, but Mr. Hanson being a man of reading recalled that a wet foundation was no barrier to the most shining successes in city building. Chicago was built in a marsh. Venice was built in a lagoon and Shanghai was originally a frog pond. A townsite then it was to be forever to immortalize its founder—Ditlef C. Hanson! He debated whether to call it Ditlef's Hope or Hansonburg, but finally rejected both as lacking in euphony. Instead he called it Tacoma Beach as being both resonant and reminiscent of the city of his home. This important point being settled in haste he hied him to a printer.

Townsite lithographs are wonderful things. In 1836, long before there was a single settler in Kewaunee County, a townsite was platted about where the City of Kewaunee now stands and large fortunes were made and lost by means of an eloquent lithograph. A nomadic fur-trader had shortly before that time picked up something in the swamp at the mouth of Kewaunee River which his imagination had transmitted into gold. Rumor reached the ears of some enterprising promoters who proceeded to lay out a townsite. Not a settler at that time lived within thirty miles of the place but that did not prevent the project from becoming a great transient success. A number of men of national fame became interested, among them being such men as John Jacob Astor, Governor Doty, Governor Beals, Judge Morgan L. Martin, Hon. Sanford E. Church, General Ruggles, Colonel Crocker and ex-Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States Salmon P. Chase. For a while there was much debate in the minds of great financiers whether to invest in Chicago or Kewaunee real estate. In April, 1836, a forty-acre tract in the swamp was sold to Governor Doty for \$15,000. Judge Martin had entered a tract of eighty acres in the swamp from the government. This he sold within a few days to his distinguished colleague, Chief Justice Chase, for \$38,000.00. These and other lands

were subdivided into lots and on September 2, 1836, a grand auction was held in Chicago. There was a great rush for the lots, some selling as high as a thousand dollars, and the promoters reaped barrels of money. For a while there was much slushing around in top boots in the Kewaunee swamp in search for gold. Nothing was found, the investors went sadly away, and the land reverted into an untaxed and unsettled wilderness for the next thirty years.

Our Ditlef C. Hanson had no such rosy dreams of success. He did not know any governors or Supreme Court Justices. But he did his best with the material at hand. He got out a stock of splendid lithographs. These showed a townsite plat more than a mile long with wide streets and curving avenues. No such common names as Pike street or Billings avenue were here permitted. They were all sonorous street names, reminiscent of the glory of the Republic, like Arlington avenue, Columbia street, Potomac Boulevard, etc. Along the shore a beautiful park was shown enlivened by smart carriages and gay children dashing around on roller skates. Some streets were marked with street car lines and certain corners were marked as occupied by a public library, postoffice, sanitarium, bank or other institution of might. Even sluggish old Mink River as if taking new life by this activity was pictured as a dashing stream, leaping over boulders and plunging at last into the lake by means of an inspiring waterfall. All in all it was the most imposing document ever published setting forth the charms of Door County.

Armed with these lithographs Mr. Hanson returned to Tacoma and opened the campaign. He showed them to friends and foes who were duly impressed and sometimes bought. He discovered, however, that the vastness of the American continent lying between Tacoma and Tacoma Beach deterred many who would otherwise eagerly have invested. Because of this and because, like Moses, he was slow of speech though of great resource, he determined to go to Chicago and sell out. He went to Chicago where he met a man by the name of Lowenstein or Rosencrans. To him he sold his entire stock of lithographs with the townsite thrown in.

Mr. Lowenstein or Rosencrans was enthusiastic about his purchase. He went out into the highways and byways of the city and explained the lithographs to all who would listen. He showed them how they could live happily there at Tacoma Beach, or, if they would not, how they could die, secure in the faith that their money was well invested and their widows would bless their memory. His arguments were irrefutable.

In due course of time many of these investors came to view the paradise of their purchase. Among them was a semi-invalid who came with a full equipment of paint and pots and brushes. He had taken the job of painting the cottages of the new city. Some went as far as Sturgeon Bay, others went on to Fish Creek and Sister Bay, while still others persisted in pushing on to Rowleys Bay, before they were disillusioned. Alas, they each and all discovered that they had forgotten the most important part of their equipment for viewing the new city—top boots!

We will not linger over the gnashing of teeth or the bitter recriminations heaped upon old Lowenstein or Rosencrans. The lots were sold and the lithographs used up, so he merely shrugged his shoulders and turned his thoughts to other things. So also, after a while, did the dupes. Their money was gone so they wasted no more in paying taxes on their submerged lots and Lakeside boulevard. It remained now only for a long suffering county board to unravel the tangle. Finally the

"streets" were vacated and the land sold for taxes. The affair cost the county about five thousand dollars.

After eight years flight in financial circles Rowleys Bay returned once more to its undisturbed seclusion. In the parks of the new city the frogs croak by day and the crickets chirp by night. Even frisky old Mink River has ceased from its gambols and settled into its sluggish solitude where the pickerel in June are reckless and the black bass bite with abandon.

## CHAPTER XLI

### BAILEYS HARBOR

Baileys Harbor enjoys the distinction of being the first place in Door County that was selected for a village site. Not only this, but it was officially selected as the county seat several years before Door County's actual organization was effected. The genesis of this early Baileys Harbor boom is as follows:

On a windy afternoon about seventy years ago a Captain Bailey was piloting his storm tossed vessel back to Milwaukee. He had been to Buffalo with wheat and was now returning with a lighter but more troublesome cargo of immigrants bound for the West. After he had passed the Straits of Mackinac and turned southward a fresh northeast wind began to blow which soon developed into a fierce gale. He was now skirting the shore of Door County and was thinking with gloomy misgivings of the 200 mile journey up the lake to Milwaukee without a harbor or an island or a lighthouse to ease him on his way. His topheavy schooner almost stripped of canvas was rolling about in the heavy sea in a fashion which held but little hope for her safety in the approaching night. Just as the wailing of the frightened immigrants was threatening to drive the worthy captain frantic he saw a large harbor opening into the land on the west. He did not know whether the water was deep enough for his boat or how the passage was into it as his faulty charts said but little of any harbor at this point. However, fearing sure shipwreck if he continued he determined to take a chance on the harbor and turned in. He found the passage was broad, deep and easy and in a few minutes his vessel lay snugly anchored under a protecting wing of pine that shut out all evidence of the storm that raged outside.

As the storm continued several days the captain had time to explore his surroundings. He found the harbor was deep and roomy while the shores were studded with a splendid growth of mixed timber. Back from the shore a short distance he found a ledge of fine building stone. Up among these crags grew the most luscious raspberries which were eagerly picked by immigrants weary of a diet of salt pork. No human occupants were found.

Elated with his discovery Captain Bailey took with him several cords of building stone and firewood and proceeded on his way to Milwaukee. Here he gave such an enthusiastic account of the harbor he had discovered that among other captains of the line "Baileys Harbor" at once became a famous place. The owner of the line, Mr. Alanson Sweet, also became very much interested in the samples of stone and wood that Captain Bailey had brought with him. Mr. Sweet was doing an extensive business in the forwarding and commission business and owned about a dozen large vessels. These plied between Milwaukee and Buffalo. On the way down there were always large cargoes of grain to be carried but on the way up the freight was scant and uncertain, consisting chiefly of salt and immigrants.

In Captain Bailey's discovery he saw a chance to augment his profits by adding freight to his return trips. Building stone, cordwood and lumber were in great demand in Milwaukee and at "Baileys Harbor" they were all easily accessible. In the summer of 1849 he therefore purchased lots 3 and 4, section 20, containing about 125 acres. These with lots 1 and 2 in the same section include the present Village of Baileys Harbor. Lots 1 and 2 were entered by Joel Carrington from Peshtigo in September, 1849, and the patents to lots 3 and 4 were issued to Wm. S. Trowbridge who entered them May 29, 1850. There is therefore some doubt as to Sweet's title.

In the summer of 1849 he sent a crew of men under Solomon Beery up to build a pier and open a stone quarry. During the following winter the pier was built, being the first one built in Door County. The crew of men also cut and banked 2,500 cords of wood which were shipped to Milwaukee in the summer of 1850. Six comfortable log houses were also put up in the vicinity of where now stands Branns Store and a road was cut across the peninsula from the harbor to the Green Bay shore opposite Hat Island. This was the first road cut in Door County.

Mr. Sweet had great hopes of his colony at Baileys Harbor. He began negotiations at once with the Federal Government to secure a lighthouse for the harbor. In this he was successful and in 1851 he built a lighthouse under contract from the Government on the point at the east side of the bay. This lighthouse was in use until 1868 when the present range lights were built to take its place. He also got an act passed by the State Legislature setting off Door County as a separate county with its present boundaries. He also persuaded the lawmakers of Madison to designate his own little settlement at the harbor as the official county seat. To accomplish this he pointed out that this site had the best harbor—not only in Door County—but along the entire west shore of Lake Michigan and that it was therefore bound to become a place of great commercial importance. In contrast to this he claimed that all the western shore of Door County was made up of steep, unapproachable cliffs affording no natural shelter for shipping. He also showed that the proposed site for the county seat was half way between the northern and southern extremities of the county and therefore most centrally located. Finally, Baileys Harbor was the only village or claimant for the county seat in the entire county. All of this was more than enough for the worthy legislators, none of which ever expected to see the new county. The county seat was therefore established at Baileys Harbor but under another name. Mr. Sweet felt that Baileys Harbor—named after one of his own happy-go-lucky captains—was not sufficiently sonorous to fit the county seat. As the principal characteristic of the place to him seemed to be stone and rocks he was reminded of the name of Gibraltar, the great rock of the Mediterranean. He therefore suggested this name which was adopted as the official name of Door County's capital. This new name did not, however, stick with the people as did the old name of Baileys Harbor which continued to be used.

If Mr. Sweet had continued prosperously in the shipping business it is probable that Baileys Harbor would to this day have been the county seat, a little city of importance perhaps overshadowing Sturgeon Bay. However, for reason unknown to me, Mr. Sweet shortly afterward withdrew his connections from Baileys Harbor. His mill burned down, his pier went to ruin, his cottages crum-

bled into decay, and the hopeful county seat of Door County expired in its infancy. However, on the official records of the state it continued as the county seat until 1857 when the energetic hustlers of Sturgeon Bay took the necessary steps to have the county seat removed to the latter village. Notices were posted in Baileys Harbor and elsewhere, chiefly inspected by chipmunks, stating that an election would be held to learn the wish of the people as to the location of the county seat. A cigar box was then carried around to the scattered fishermen and few dozen farmers inviting them to vote for the rising metropolis, Sturgeon Bay, which they obligingly did.

While the county seat went south its name went north. In December, 1857, the Town of Gibraltar, as yet nameless, was set off, embracing all of the present Liberty Grove, Gibraltar, Egg Harbor, Baileys Harbor and Jacksonport. The following spring the first town meeting was held in Asa Thorp's house at Fish Creek. Solomon Beery proposed that the town adopt as its name the official name of the county seat, Gibraltar, which lay within its borders as befitting the bold precipitous cliffs that overshadowed them. This was done. When therefore Baileys Harbor in 1861 was set aside as a separate town it lost even the name of its former glory.

For a time Baileys Harbor relapsed into almost primeval seclusion. Its earlier population mostly left for other parts, leaving only Solomon Beery, Miles M. Carrington, Adam Hendricks and S. B. Ward. The last was a kindly, chatty old man who had brought a small stock of provisions and notions to the Harbor in 1853 and opened a small store in the firm conviction that Baileys Harbor would soon become the business center of the entire county. He was the first storekeeper on the peninsula. In 1870 he fell dead on the street of heart failure.

These early settlers at the Harbor during the '50s existed after a fashion, fishing a little, hunting a little and now and then sawing a little lumber with a stationary engine that some one had landed. There was no pier, however, so shipments were made with difficulty.

In 1857 a new business man from outside parts saw possibilities in Baileys Harbor. This man was A. K. Lee, who built six limekilns along the bluff and proceeded to burn and ship lime in a wholesale fashion. He also built a very large dwelling house "with a cupola from which you could see clean across Lake Michigan," on the site of Wm. Brann's new house. He had time to make only one shipment of lime when he failed in business. His interests were now taken over by Cooley Williamson. He operated the business for a year but found much trouble in shipping lime by water. When at the end of this time the large comfortable house left by Lee burned up, he gave up the business in disgust and removed to other parts.

Among the men that Lee brought up to work at the lime kilns was Hugh Collins. He stayed and shortly afterward cleared a farm three miles south of Baileys Harbor on which his family still reside. Through him several Irish families settled near the harbor. A number of other men who had drifted north in the hope of good employment in the village but were disappointed followed suit and began the huge task of carving out farms out of the vast forest that surrounded Baileys Harbor. Among those who stayed and became old settlers were T. W. McCullough, Peter Goss, Samuel Williams, J. B. Lallemond, William Toseland, William and Thomas Panter, John and Con Collins, James Ridings, Hugh Spring

and Roger Eatough. These all came during the Civil war or shortly after. The greater part of Baileys Harbor's choicest surrounding farming lands, lying west and northwest of the village, was not settled until about 1876 when there was a considerable immigration of Polanders. They live partly in the Town of Baileys Harbor and partly in Gibraltar and the story of their coming is told in a separate chapter. About this time (1877) also came the Brañn brothers, John, Andrew, William and August Brann, who later became prominent business men of Baileys Harbor. They are from Finland. They were sailors and when their vessel in 1877 was laid up they were directed to Door County where woodchopping was at its height. They came here with about twenty other Finnish sailors who all fell to chopping and later became prosperous citizens.

In the meantime the Village of Baileys Harbor, having made several false starts, had found its true course and was now humming merrily. This real beginning of the village may be said to start with Moses Kilgore's arrival in 1860. He built the first permanent pier in the village in 1861 and by it made an outlet for the vast forest products that for forty years made Baileys Harbor the chief shipping point for cordwood, ties, and cedar poles in the county.

In 1865 William R. Higgins and his son, Allen Higgins, built a pier a mile south of Baileys Harbor which for many years did a big business. Maj. J. W. Lowell followed with a sawmill and a hotel was also built. For many years Higgins Pier, or "Frogtown" as it was called, now one of the most peaceful spots in the county, was a very busy trading point.

Between the village proper and Higgins Pier the road traversed the land of a man by the name of Finch. Certain legal formalities had been omitted in opening the road and Finch began a series of suits against the town for damages. So persistent was he in pushing his legal claims that he after some years won the title of "the champion suist." The Door County Advocate of February 25, 1869, contains the following account of his legal persistence:

"We have a champion suist in our county. He hails from Baileys Harbor and answers to the name of Finch. He is the Mark Tapley of suists and can stand more suits with greater cheerfulness than any other man we know of. He flourishes beneath the depressing influences of the law like a veritable green bay tree. No term of the Circuit Court escapes without his name on the calendar in some capacity, and during court week his cheerful countenance beams benignantly on judge, jury, lawyers and spectators. And he has influence too. Twice every year a delegation of Baileys Harborites come up and their business is Finch. The magic of his name summons them from their homes to brave the gibes of lawyers and the uncertainties of petit jurors. Between him and a portion of his townsmen is a road and that road has run through three years of our Circuit Court and bids fair to run for many a term to come. He takes a grim pleasure in thus playing familiarly with that that is a grim terror to so many, and takes more delight in punching up his unanmiable neighbors than a menagerie man the royal bengal tiger to make it roar. Great is the law and great is its friend Finch."

In spite of his persistence and the possible justice of his claim Mr. Finch was not a popular hero as he was interfering with a public necessity. It was therefore with a feeling of relief that people one day in the winter of 1871 heard that an end had come to Finch's lawsuits because he had committed suicide by hang-



ing himself in the stable. The circumstances of the hanging were peculiar and many old settlers to this day feel sure that the man was murdered by his teamster instead of taking his own life. However, Finch by this time was considered a nuisance and no further inquiry was made into the manner of his death. The teamster married the widow and Baileys Harbor's perennial lawsuit was at end.

The village was platted in 1866 by Thomas Severn who bought the land, laid it out in lots, built a third pier where now is Anclam's Pier and opened a big store. He did a large business until he in 1871 sold out to F. Woldtman.

Owing to the shallow water at Baileys Harbor it was necessary to build very long piers which were expensive to keep up. In 1869 Kilgore built a long addition to his pier. During the following winter there was piled on this new extension no less than 800 cords of green maple wood. This load was too much for it and in January, 1870, this extension collapsed with a loss to Mr. Kilgore of about five thousand dollars besides a great loss to the pioneers who owned the wood who hoped with its returns to pay the interest on the mortgage.

Baileys Harbor was at this time and for many years afterward a very busy place. Numerous schooners were daily to be seen, loading wood and other products, more than a hundred cargoes being shipped annually. The big boats, plying between Chicago and Buffalo, also made regular stops at Baileys Harbor. Compared with the bustle of the latter '60s, '70s and '80s the village now presents a very tranquil appearance.

The greater part of the farming population around Baileys Harbor is German, most of whom settled on their various tracts of wild land in the '80s. Of these immigrants it may be said that they helped to clear their part of the world of stump and stone, toiling desperately that their children might possibly have a little ease.

A serio-comic event of some importance happened in connection with the arrival of one of these immigrants which makes a rather good story. A man by the name of August Krauser, having laid aside a few dollars by diligent chopping of cordwood, bought transportation tickets from C. L. Nelson and sent them to Germany that his brother, Gottfried, and family might also come and partake of the wealth that abounded in the slashings of Door County. Gottfried and his family packed their boxes and went to Bremen to take passage for America. Through some mistake the ticket for the youngest child was made out for an infant of less than a year old and the child being over this age was not permitted to go on board. In their dilemma it was arranged that the wife and the children should go on to America first and there arrange with their relative to have the mistake corrected so that Gottfried could follow. In due course of time the woman with the children arrived in Door County and explained why the father had been left behind. Through Mr. Nelson arrangements were now made to bring over Gottfried Krauser who, however, in the meantime had disappeared. After months of search the steamship company finally found him in a hospital with an injured leg. He was finally brought on board the vessel to join his family.

In the meantime his wife had given up her husband for lost. After a brief season of grief she was ardently wooed by another German in her new home in Gibraltar by the name of Anton Mahlberger. When he proposed to marry her, children and all, she demurely consented and the marriage knot was tied at once by the renowned justice, William Jackson.



MOSES KILGORE



The next day a goodly crowd was assembled in one of the saloons of Baileys Harbor, where Anton Mahlberger was "setting them up" in honor of the event. Just as they were having "one round more" and congratulations were profuse and noisy another man stepped in. It was C. L. Nelson, the agent of the steamship company. He listened to their thick-tongued chatter for a moment and then created great consternation by announcing that their celebration was a little premature—husband number one had just arrived in Sturgeon Bay! For a moment there was silence and visions of a deadly struggle between the two jealous husbands flew before the eyes of the excited bystanders. Anton Mahlberger was the least effected. He ordered up another drink and coolly announced that if the woman wanted to live with the "other fellow" it was agreeable to him.

The following day there was great eagerness to see the woman meet her two husbands. However, it did not take her long to make her choice. Anton was big and strong as a young ox, a perfection of manly grace in her love-sick eyes; Gottfried was small, deformed and pinched by excessive work and illness. She scornfully surveyed her humble first husband and said "Go back to Germany where you belong! I have eaten husks with you long enough. Now I want some of the real fruit!" Then she went to the triumphant Anton and took his hand. However, that poor Gottfried might have something to show for his share in the affair, they magnanimously told him to take the children, which he humbly did.

Baileys Harbor has had a number of prominent residents favorably known all over the county. Among these are in particular three whose names are among the leading memories of the county's history. These are Moses Kilgore, Allen Higgins and Roger Eatough. Moses Kilgore was among the earliest permanent settlers of the town and it is commonly asserted that he did more for the improvement of the town than any other man. He was a remarkably energetic Yankee from the State of Maine with a picturesque flow of profanity and unadorned speech which was exceedingly entertaining or dreadfully horrifying according to the temper of his audience. He was the first great booster for good roads in the county. When he represented the county in the State Legislature in 1867 he succeeded in putting through an appropriation for building the state road that runs through the county on the Lake Michigan side. He was also a prominent business man, stage driver and member of the county board for a number of years. His epitaph might be: "He was an indomitable hustler from his cradle to his grave."

Roger Eatough is Kilgore's son-in-law and while he has the same strength of purpose he is very much unlike him in manner. While Kilgore was frequently brusque and vociferous Mr. Eatough is always smooth and quiet. He has a natural aptitude for diplomacy which in more favorable fields like politics, law or real estate would have given him a distinguished name and station. Mr. Eatough has however always spent his time in Baileys Harbor until recently when he moved to Sturgeon Bay. As member of the county board he has had a unique record representing the Town of Baileys Harbor on the county board for twenty years, terminating only with his removal to Sturgeon. For eight years he was chairman of the county board.

Allen Higgins was like Kilgore a pier owner and business man. In company with his father he built Higgins' pier south of Baileys Harbor which for many years was a great place of business. Mr. Higgins, however, is better

known as one of the most respected county officers the county has had. New men came and went but Mr. Higgins stayed on as clerk of the court for thirty-five years until he finally refused re-election. To all these county officers he was a helpful friend, to the annual county boards an interested counselor and to the thousands who visited the courthouse a willing helper whose genial, courteous manner and never failing fund of exact information was always at the command of those seeking aid.

The Town of Baileys Harbor is very irregular in shape, being about eight miles long, with a shore line of twice that length, while it is only a mile wide at the village. At this point the Town of Gibraltar comes within about a mile of Lake Michigan. In 1870 the county board was persuaded to detach a large portion, sections 1, 2, 11, 12, 13 and 14, from the Town of Gibraltar, and attach it to Baileys Harbor. This gave Baileys Harbor a very valuable tract of territory and largely remedied the irregularities of its boundaries. The people in the detached portion of Gibraltar, however, resisted the transfer. Both towns assessed the debatable territory and for a time it looked as if the people in this section would have to pay taxes in both towns. Gibraltar was finally permitted to keep the territory within her boundaries owing to the fact that the town had less than thirty-six sections of land.

Baileys Harbor has more swamp land than any other town in the county with the possible exception of the Town of Sturgeon Bay. It is claimed that 70 per cent of the town is unfit for cultivation. This claim is probably excessive. It also has two lakes within its borders. In the northern part is Mud Lake, a dreary pond deserving of its name. In the southern part is Kangaroo Lake, a very beautiful body of water three miles long and almost a mile wide. This charming lake, now beginning to be appreciated by summer resorters, was the first part of Door County to evoke a poetic outburst. Far back in 1857 Mr. Allen H. Powers, a man of culture who for some years lived in Fish Creek and was chairman of the Town of Gibraltar, suddenly came upon Kangaroo Lake hidden in the trackless forest. Mr. Powers was so charmed with the unexpected panorama that he at once penned the following very respectable lines:

#### KANGAROO LAKE

"This wild northwestern land I love,  
As 'mongst its bays and lakes I rove.  
Nor wish for other home than this,  
To give me all home can of bliss.

"I love its beauteous inland lakes,  
Whose tiny waves in ripples break  
On pebbly beach, begirt with trees  
All murmuring in the gentle breeze.

"And when my restless spirit craves  
A stormy scene and wilder waves,  
Within one mile, an inland sea  
Rolls its surf on a rocky lea.

"I love to stand on that rock-bound shore,  
And hear the mighty waters roar,  
And feel the earth beneath me quake,  
As the foam-capped waves in thunder break.

"I love its skies so deeply blue;  
Its stars so brightly shining through,  
Where Luna holds her nightly sway,  
And Sol's refulgence lights the day.

"Where Orion's belt with its triple clasp,  
And the heavy club in his mighty grasp,  
With radiant beauty that nightly shine,  
Unknown in stars in southern clime.

"'Tis here that nature tried her hand,  
To make a wild romantic land,  
And spread her streams, and bays and lakes,  
In all the forms that beauty takes."

A. H. POWERS.

#### THE POLISH SETTLEMENT AT BAILEYS HARBOR

One of the thriftiest looking sections of Door County is to be found just west and northwest of the Village of Baileys Harbor. It is a rolling country covered with a fertile soil in a high state of cultivation. The roads are in excellent shape and are lined by large barns and commodious dwelling houses. There is an abundance of livestock to be seen on every hand and there are often two wind-mills in each barnyard—one for pumping water, the other for grinding feed and other power purposes. This is the home of the Polish Settlement of Door County.

As one beholds this pleasing, comfortable looking countryside it is hard to believe that forty years ago this was all an unbroken wilderness of timber. For mile after mile the forest stood dense and unbroken except for the ruthless slashing of the lumberman. With branches interlaced the huge maples and hemlocks stood—thin, shaggy tops shutting out the sunlight, while underneath the moist ground was covered with rotting windfalls and boulders of all sizes. There were no roads or paths. There were no little clearings with romping children. It was a primeval wilderness, undisturbed since the day of creation with only now and then a prowling redskin in search of favorite herbs or setting his traps in a well-chosen runway.

In October, 1871, the great Chicago fire laid the western metropolis in ruins and the news of the disaster reached to the ends of the earth. During the following winter and summer the cry of the city for men to come and rebuild it went far and wide. In Chicago, they were told, any man could get work at his own wages. A boom in real estate was also coming and they could get rich over night. Thousands heeded the call and hurried thither.

Among these soldiers of fortune were also five Polanders from the far distant Province of Posen, in Prussia. Once upon a time Poland was one of the great

powers of Europe but little by little it fell a prey to the greed of the surrounding powers. In 1794, after the downfall of the great Kosciusko, the country was divided between Russia, Prussia and Austria, and Poland ceased to exist as a nation. As proof of the great national spirit of the Polish people it may be added that even to this day the people cling to their own language and ideas and refuse to be considered as natives of the countries that conquered them. It was from the Prussian part of ancient Poland that these five men came. Their names were Martin Schram, Theodore Zak, John Raza, Christ Grey and Casimir Schmidt. They were all married except Martin Schram.

When these men arrived in Chicago in the fall of 1873 they were all filled with great hopes of success. They were sturdy fellows willing to work and they looked forward to the time when they could send money to their humble friends and relatives in the Province of Posen. However they were soon to be disappointed. The boom following the fire was past, a panic had followed and the city was over filled with foreigners like themselves, who could speak no English and who had no other qualifications but a pair of brawny arms. As they went from one employment office to another they were everywhere met with the same reception, "Nothing doing, come some other day."

One day as they stood in an employment office discussing their hard luck, a stranger entered. He listened to their talk and said:

"If you want work, boys, come with me, I'll fix you up."

"What work do you have?" they inquired, and "where is it?"

"You can cut cordwood for me at Baileys Harbor, where I live, 300 miles north of here."

Their faces fell. Three hundred miles away! How would they get there?

"I have a schooner here," said the stranger, "and I'll take you up there free of charge."

The matter was quickly settled. To be sure, they had little idea of what or where Baileys Harbor was, but they had to make a living some way and they went with him.

This man was Frederick Woldtman, a German who had been in America four or five years. He had a little store where Anclam's store is now located, with a pier outside. He is spoken of by most people as a kind-hearted man, who was always ready to help the needy by word or deed.

Besides Woldtman's there were two other piers in Baileys Harbor. In the north end of the village was one owned by the bluff old Yankee, Moses Kilgore, a sterling old pioneer of whom many good stories are told. A half mile south of the village, however, was for a time the principal business center. This was "Frogtown," where William R. Higgins and son, Allen Higgins, had a pier. Here was also a sawmill, a hotel, much traffic and no doubt, much whiskey. In those days there was much more business at "Frogtown" or Baileys Harbor than now. Before the Sturgeon Bay Canal was built the Goodrich boats used to stop there twice a week. There was also a constant stream of schooners loading cordwood and other timber products. Many men had crews in the woods cutting cordwood. The more cordwood they handled the poorer they got, but they kept at it. Nothing now remains of "Frogtown" but a charming little nook by the water, unvisited except for an occasional picnic party seeking a secluded spot for a lunching place.

Our Polish pioneers cut cordwood for Woldtman for about two years. By 1876

Schram and Schmidt had saved up a few dollars and were able to buy forty acres of land each on the north side of the township between Gibraltar and Baileys Harbor. Schmidt built the first house. This land lies just west of the little creek that crosses the town line two miles west of Baileys Harbor and was chosen because of its convenience to the creek, as water in those days was almost a luxury. A little later the other Polanders bought in the immediate vicinity. Not all were able to build houses and for years they lived together in crowded log houses, but in great harmony. Even after they got individual houses the swamp and the creek was a great gathering place, for everybody had to carry water from the creek.

Little by little these sturdy pioneers forged ahead. Though beginning only with a borrowed axe and a pair of overalls, in a strange land with no knowledge of the language, they never flinched or bemoaned their fate, but hewed their homes out of the wilderness. After a few years they were joined by their friends and countrymen to whom they had written. Among these can be mentioned the Polzins, the Charnetskis, the Rehs, the Wisas, the Brunetzkis, the Rosenaws, the Kit-tas, the Krauses, the Klingbeils, the Zdryewskis and others. Some of these are Germans, but they come from the same part of Posen as the Polanders and they speak Polish as well as German. These all went through the same desperate battle with the wilderness, but they have all made good and many of them are in very prosperous circumstances, owning several hundred acres of land, with choice improvements. There are now about thirty Polish family in this settlement, but judging by the number of children in most families it will soon be many times as large. Fred Reh, John Wisa and Ignatz Charnetzki have each had nine children, Peter Zdryewski has ten, Theodor Zak and John Raza have twelve, and Martin Schram had fourteen.

The secret of the success of these people is their remarkable capacity for work. Physically considered they are a splendid class of people. Because of their indomitable energy and industry they have triumphed over stumps and stone picking, mortgages, drouths, grasshoppers, hard times, drink and all. The last mentioned handicap has perhaps been the worst. Although they live in close proximity to Baileys Harbor's many saloons which have been rather freely patronized by them they have not permitted these occasional indulgences to get the mastery over them but have pushed ahead untiringly.

And just as capable as the men have been in the woods or in the fields, so have their wives in their households. Old settlers who used to travel through the settlement in early days tell that no matter how small or humble the log shanty was, it was always scrupulously neat and clean inside, with well-cooked food and a ready welcome.

May this settlement of Polish people prosper and live long! They are built of the stuff that is needed in a new country.



## CHAPTER XLII

### EGG HARBOR

Once upon a time a young Chippewa Indian from Washington Island was hunting with his dog on the hill overlooking Horseshoe Bay in the present Town of Egg Harbor. As he was cautiously stepping forward amid the tall trees and occasional open glades he spied two bear cubs comfortably dozing on the sunny side of a big windfall. Being, like all Indians, fond of pets, he silenced and restrained his eager dog and crept forward intending to capture the cubs alive. When near them he laid down his gun and suddenly pouncing upon them he seized them both. Immediately there was much squirming and yelping but he managed to get a good hold in the fur of the neck and after a brief struggle arose with one cub in each hand. No sooner was he on his feet, however, before he heard a ferocious growl behind him. Turning instantly he saw a huge bear, the mother of the captive cubs, advancing upright on her hind feet. His gun was on the ground some distance away, so dropping the cubs he pulled his tomahawk and his knife to defend himself. He had only time, however, to raise his arm to throw the tomahawk when the savage beast was upon him and giving his arm a tremendous blow which broke it like a pipe stem she sent his tomahawk flying through the air several rods away. Then she seized him in a terrible embrace and he felt his ribs cracking.

Still clutching his knife in his other hand he was able to give his huge adversary several ugly slashes in the abdomen. This, however, did not bother her much and he would soon have been crushed to pulp if it had not been for his valiant dog. So fierce were the attacks of his faithful ally that the bear felt constrained to turn her attention to the dog. This gave the Indian his opportunity. He jumped for his tomahawk and resolutely advancing he drove it with a sure stroke to the hilt into the skull of the bear which fell dead.

By this time the little bears had disappeared in the forest and he had to give up their capture. His companions who were not far away set his arm and with their help the big bear was skinned. For this exploit he received the name of Big Bear and later became a famous chief.

Egg Harbor seems to have been a great place for bears. Old settlers tell of them invading their storehouses to steal their bacon and drink their milk. Once in broad daylight it even happened that a child was carried away by a bear. This happened at the home of Fred Kracht in section 32. It was on a morning in May, 1876. The father had gone to Baileys Harbor. The mother, eager for a piece of gossip, had left her little two year old boy undressed in the yard while she strolled down to a neighbor woman some distance away for a chat. Soon the dog which was chained was heard savagely barking and the child screaming in terror. The mother and the neighbors hurried to the house but the child was nowhere

to be found. A general alarm was sounded and scores of men turned out to search the woods and the fields thoroughly. Nothing was ever found of the child, however, only some big fresh bear tracks leading into the swamp.

There is some doubt as to the origin of Egg Harbor's unusual name. In April, 1862, Hon. Henry S. Baird of Green Bay contributed the following article to the Door County Advocate for the purpose of throwing light on the origin of this name. Mr. Baird writes as follows:

"In looking over the list of towns in Door County, I observe that one of them is named 'Egg Harbor.' This name calls to mind an incident which occurred many years since—before Wisconsin had a habitation, or name—and from which event, 'Egg Harbor,' undoubtedly received its appellation. At all events, the relation to the circumstance alluded to, may be of interest to the inhabitants of that part of the state, as a reminiscence of the 'early times' in Wisconsin, and exhibits the contrast between the facilities and mode of travel in the 'fast days' of the world's progress and the slow and primitive locomotion of the days of yore. At the period I allude to, 'Green Bay Settlement' was the oldest of two places—then—the only white settlements in the limits of Wisconsin. The only highways, then existing, were the lakes and rivers; and upon those the journeys, or rather voyages of the travelers, were made. The communication between Green Bay and Mackinac, Detroit, and the lower lakes, was principally by sail vessels for at that time there was but one (possibly two) steamers on the lakes, and their visits to Green Bay were 'few and far between'; perhaps once or twice a year. The travel on the rivers was by Mackinac boats or bateaux, and bark canoes and very frequently these bateaux and canoes made voyages to and from Green Bay from Mackinac and other places, even Montreal. This was done by coasting along the eastern shore of Green Bay, to its mouth, making—in the language of the voyageur—'Traverse' of the bay, and thence coasting along the north shore of Lake Michigan, and through the 'straits' to the Island of Mackinac. In making the voyage, the traveler was obliged to lay in a sufficient quantity of the 'creature comforts,' to serve him to the end of his journey; for there were then neither 'hotels or taverns'—and no inhabitants save the original owners and occupants of the country.

"In the summer of the year 1825 Mr. Rolette, then a very prominent and extensive Indian trader, arrived at Green Bay, from the Mississippi, with three or four large Mackinac boats, on his annual voyage to Mackinac, with the returns from his year's trade. There being at that time no vessel at Green Bay, Mr. Rolette kindly offered a passage on his own boat to Mr. and Mrs. Baird, then 'young folks' who resided at the bay and were anxious of visiting Mackinac. On a fine morning in June, the fleet left the Fox River and proceeded along the east shore of Green Bay, being well supplied with good tents, large and copious 'mess baskets,' well stored with provisions of all kinds, especially a large quantity of eggs. On the second day at noon the order was given by the 'Commodore' (Mr. Rolette) to go ashore for dinner. The boats were then abreast of 'Egg Harbor,' until then, without a name. On board the 'Commodore's' boat, there were besides himself, Mr. and Mrs. Baird and nine Canadian boatmen, or voyageurs, as they were styled. On another of the boats were two young men, clerks, in the employ of Mr. Rolette—one of whom was a Mr. Kinzie—now of Chicago and a like number of boatmen. It was the etiquette on those voyages, where there were several

boats in company, the principal person or owner of the 'outfit' take the lead in the line; sometimes, however, a good natured strife would arise between the several crews, when etiquette was lost sight of in the endeavor to outstrip each other and arrive first at the land; and this was especially more likely to occur when eating or encamping was near at hand. Mr. Rolette was an eccentric and excitable Frenchman, and had many eccentricities which were often imitated and ridiculed, behind his back, by the young men in his employ, and by none more frequently than Mr. Kinzie. At the entrance to the harbor the boat in charge of Mr. Kinzie came along side the Commodore, with the evident intention of taking the lead. Mr. Rolette ordered it back; but instead of obeying, the crew of the boat—urged on by Mr. Kinzie—redoubled their exertions to pass the 'Commodore,' and as a kind of bravado the clerks held up an old broom; the Commodore and his companions could not stand this; the 'mess baskets' were opened and a brisk discharge, not of balls, but shell, was made upon the offenders. The attack was soon returned in kind. It then became necessary to guard and protect the only lady on board from injury, which was accomplished by extending herself on the flat surface of the packs of fur, which composed the cargo, and covering her over with a large tarpaulin or oil cloth. The battle kept up for some time, but at length the Commodore triumphed, and the refractory boat was obliged to fall back. Whether this was the result of superior skill of the marksmen on board the Commodore's boat, or the failure of ammunition on the other, is not now remembered.

"After landing the battle was renewed. The boats and men presented rather an 'eggish' appearance, and the inconvenience was rather increased by the fact that some of the missiles used by the belligerents were not of a very savory or agreeable odor. The fun ended in Mr. Kinzie having to wash his outer garments and while so employed, some mischievous party threw his hat and coat into the lake. All enjoyed the sport, and none more so than the merry and jovial Canadian boatmen; and the actors in the frolic long remembered the sham battle at 'Egg Harbor,' and it is believed that to this circumstance may be attributed the origin of the name of one of the towns of Door County."

According to Jacob E. Thorp, one of the earliest settlers in the Town of Egg Harbor, the name has a different origin. He writes as follows:

"Mr. (Increase) Claflin named most of the places and islands from Sturgeon Bay to the Door. Horseshoe Bay he called by that name, because he found his horses there, when they were on their way back to Little Sturgeon after he had moved to Fish Creek, and one of the horses had lost a shoe at that place. The place has gone by that name ever since. Egg Harbor he so named because of the harbor there, and on going in he found a nest full of duck's eggs. Hat Island he said was the shape of a hat. Strawberry Islands he named on account of the amount of strawberries that grew there. Eagle Island he named because he found an eagle's nest there. Sister Islands because they were so near alike."<sup>1</sup> Mr. Thorp was Mr. Claflin's son-in-law and lived with him for five years and therefore had excellent opportunities for hearing Mr. Claflin's recollections of the beginning of things in Door County.

Jacob E. Thorp was the second settler in the Town of Egg Harbor, building a house on the beach half way between the two present piers. His son, Roy, was

<sup>1</sup> From J. E. Thorp's letter quoted in Martin's History of Door County, page 95.

the first child born in Egg Harbor. He had come to Fish Creek in 1850 to look after his brother, Asa Thorp's, interests, and to work as a cooper for Increase Claffin. When Asa Thorp in 1855 settled in Fish Creek, Jacob and his brother, Levi Thorp, the same year settled in Egg Harbor where they bought about sixteen hundred acres of land including and surrounding the present village. A pier was soon built by them. After a few years Levi Thorp bought out his brother's interests and did a big business shipping cordwood and cedar.

Levi Thorp, who for many years was the principal business man north of Sturgeon Bay, was a very capable and experienced man. He was among the early gold miners of California, where he was successful in washing out \$6,000 worth of gold. On his way to California he went around Cape Horn, stopped at the Island of Juan Fernandez of Robinson Crusoe fame and returned across the Isthmus of Panama. The imposing house on the hill in the Village of Fish Creek was his home. By 1879 he had 160 acres under cultivation and was at that time the biggest farmer in the county.

For a few years the population of Egg Harbor consisted chiefly of Indians and Belgians that the Thorp brothers employed in cutting cordwood. They could talk no English but they could cut wood. The cordwood was all cut with axes in those days—no saws were used no matter how big the maple was—and wagon loads of big chips left by the choppers could be picked up anywhere in the woods all ready for the cook stove. The men received 50 cents per cord for chopping. The wood was frequently sold for only \$2 per cord.

Among the earliest settlers of Egg Harbor were Wm. G. Manney, Wm. Turner, Russell Baker, Sr., and M. E. Lyman. The last three settled on the point west of the village. Baker and Turner came from Washington Island where they had settled as fishermen in 1852. Baker had previously lived on Beaver Island, the domain of the famous Mormon king, John Strang, whom he had helped to depose. Milton E. Lyman was the first settler in the town, locating there in 1853, being then thirty-two years old. Mr. Lyman was a man of education and intelligence and what prompted him to seek a home so far from any neighbors is not known. Moreover, the land that he selected was very poor being even today considered of little value. Mr. Lyman was a popular and companionable man, esteemed and dreaded for his wit and sarcasm. He was the first county judge of Door County, holding office from 1862 to 1866. He was also at the same time clerk of court and county superintendent of schools. After this he was for many years justice of the peace in Egg Harbor and as such was great at drumming up business. He was assisted by a little following of constables and pettifoggers who were ready to offer their services the moment a row broke out. Down to his little house on the flats the procession of pettifoggers, plaintiffs, defendants, witnesses, constables and others would wend their way and here scores of heated trials have been held. The result was interminable feuds and hard feelings. During his career as justice Mr. Lyman united no less than seventy-three couples in marriage. At each of the accompanying rousing wedding celebrations he was usually a noted guest, respected for his pungent wit.

The wood business proving profitable, William Le Roy and N. W. Kirtland in 1865 built another big pier at Egg Harbor. It was not completed at once and great fear was entertained that the ice would crush it in the spring. However, the ice left it clear in the spring and Le Roy & Kirtland heaved a great sigh of relief. A

few days later, however, the ice returned, jammed into the harbor with great force and smashed the pier. Not daunted by this the new firm got out material and built another big pier the following year. This one was completed and 450 cords of wood were piled on it. When spring came the ice demolished this one, also.

In the meantime Egg Harbor had received an important addition to its population in the southern part of the town. These were the two brothers, Thomas and William Carmody. They came from Limerick, Ireland, and lived for a time in Pennsylvania. In 1857 they came to Door County. At that time entire townships lay vacant, waiting for their first settlers. Most of the best land near Sturgeon Bay was still open for pre-emption. Thomas and William Carmody, however, chose to go as far back into the timber as it was possible to get at that time and settled ten miles north of Sturgeon Bay. Here, far beyond any roads, trails or neighbors, they settled on some rather low lands just north of the present Carlsville which are even now considered of little value. Their purpose was not farming, however, but to get out cedar. Whether this was found profitable is not known. But here they lived year after year without schools, churches, markets or neighbors. It was in the heart of the wilderness. No daily or even weekly mail came to tell them of the world's progress. Beefsteak was not often on the bill of fare but bear meat took its place and the boys found wolf hunting better sport than pool playing.

Both Thomas and William Carmody had a number of husky boys and girls and the Carmody family is now numerous in Door County. Thomas had five sons and two daughters. These were Jack, Thomas, Michael, Dennis, Patrick, Mary and Olive. William had five sons and four daughters. These were John, James, Dennis, William, Henry, Mary, Bridget, Ellen, and Johanna.

After twelve years of life in their cedar slashings Thomas and William Carmody moved north to what is now called Carmody Prairie—then a big forest. Here they found other Irishmen and quite a settlement of Irish was formed back in the woods of Egg Harbor. These other Irish were Martin Maloney, Michael Hayes and Andrew Hanrahan.<sup>2</sup> When the Town of Egg Harbor was organized in 1861 Mike Hayes was candidate for side supervisor. Jokingly William Carmody asked him why he wanted to run for office seeing he had no education. "Oh, gwan wid youse," was the reply. "If I have no eddication, can't I get a prostitute?" He meant a substitute.

One of the first settlers in the northern part of the town was Dr. David Graham. He originally settled south of Fish Creek in 1858 and moved into the town of Egg Harbor in 1867. He was chairman of the town for many years and was a very popular and highly respected man. He died rather suddenly in 1882. Speaking of his death the Advocate writes: "It is no disparagement of the living to say that the departure of no other man could have occasioned such profound and general sorrow throughout the county as has been caused by the death of David Graham. In the northern towns there are few households in which the event is not regarded as a personal calamity, so thoroughly had the good doctor endeared himself to the people who knew him best. For nearly a quarter of a century he had been the guide, philosopher and friend of his acquaintances, always generous, helpful, benevolent and kind. Although not a regular graduate of a

<sup>2</sup> Hanrahan lived just across the line in Sevastopol where he settled in 1860.

medical school, his natural inclinations led him to give so much time to the study of the healing art that he was able to successfully minister to the sick. He was let to do this, not from mercenary motives, but because his sympathies prompted him at all times to allay suffering or distress of any nature whenever possible." His funeral was a remarkable manifestation of the high esteem in which he was held. Not less than 400 mourners were present from Gibraltar, Sevastopol, Baileys Harbor and Sturgeon Bay, while nearly every family in Egg Harbor was represented at the funeral.

Another very popular and efficient town officer of Egg Harbor was Frank Wellever, the present genial clerk of the court. For almost a quarter of a century, until he finally took up his residence in Sturgeon Bay, Mr. Wellever was in charge of the affairs of the town, successfully piloting it through every crisis and deftly managing to harmonize its various warring elements. If Mr. Wellever had remained in the town there is no doubt he would by this time have achieved the honor of holding the record of longest service as chairman in the county.

Prominent among the famous men of Egg Harbor is Dr. H. F. Eames who came to the town about 1875. Doctor Eames has a large practice but being a man of insatiable appetite for work he has added to his duties the responsibility of operating the largest farm in the town. He is a very extensive fruit grower and also owns a pier and a drug store. All this, however, is insufficient to fill the doctor's energetic cravings and he is always ready to take part in matters of public policy or political controversy. In conversation his tongue flows with epigrams and bristles with sarcasm. His mind is an unusual mixture of extreme kindness, pungent wit and irrepressible optimism.

West of the Carmody prairie a couple of miles lies Horseshoe Bay, once a thriving little village. Andrew Anderson, still living there, built the first pier about 1870. He bought and shipped cordwood and kept a store. In a few years he sold out to Albee & Taylor and they pushed the business energetically. They had a mill and vessels daily came and went from Horseshoe Bay. A cooper shop, a blacksmith shop, a general store, a school and a dozen dwelling houses were soon erected there. All roads led to Horseshoe Bay and business was booming. Later Fetzer & Young bought the property and employed many men. In 1890 an ice company made up of Sturgeon Bay people started cutting ice there, employing about sixty men. The ice harvest farther south was poor and the Horseshoe Bay company were confident that the price would go high up and all would make much money. They therefore held the ice, that is, that which did not trickle away. Little by little the ice melted. When the ice speculators were ready to sell the ice had turned to water and their dreams of gold had turned to dross.

That was the last exploit in the Village of Horseshoe Bay. The mill was closed, the schoolhouse was moved away, the buildings fell into decay and the grass and brush grew up in the roads. Soon almost every one forgot that there had ever been such a place as Horseshoe Bay where the schooners in olden times dropped anchor.

Once more, however, Horseshoe Bay has come forward. The lands around the beautiful bay have become the property of the Horseshoe Bay Country Club, made up largely of Green Bay people. They have here erected a commodious and elegant club building, the finest of any in the county intended for the entertainment of transient guests. Many large and beautiful cottages have also been

built, streets are being opened up and lawns are being made. In a few years Horseshoe Bay will be one of the most beautiful places in the county.

Egg Harbor is one of the most enterprising towns in the county, taking a leading part in the construction of good roads. In fact in this field it has probably outdistanced every other town in the county. It was the first town to complete the macadamizing of its entire stretch of main county thoroughfare traversing the town—a distance of more than ten miles. The last link in this highway was the road down the big Egg Harbor hill—a rare monument of excellent road construction. The town has now begun to macadamize its branch roads.

The people of the town have also distinguished themselves in such a co-operative enterprise as church building. In the Catholic Church at Egg Harbor we have a church edifice whose beauty, solidity and pleasing lines are seldom equaled in rural houses of worship. The congregation that built this church is not a large one, numbering only about sixty families.

This superabundance of energy lately so commendably manifested in the construction of fine churches, schools, modern homes and good roads in olden times frequently found an outlet in a manner not so complimentary. Egg Harbor for many years had the reputation of being a boisterous town full of clamor and carousings. Fun was frequent and so was fighting. Perhaps other towns at times were quite as bad, but at least they were not so frequently heard from as Egg Harbor. Something was "doing" there every little while. The following account culled from the columns of the Advocate, gives an interesting picture of how the old folks used to amuse themselves.

"A farmer living a few miles from the Village of Egg Harbor invited his neighbors to come and spend a sociable evening at his home. It is not at all likely that his hospitable offer would have been refused even though no other attraction than a dance had been promised, for amusements are always welcome in that locality so that the giver of a party is not obliged to send out a press-gang in search of guests, as was the case of the gentleman whose marriage feast is recorded in the New Testament. But having backed up his invitation with the assurance that there would be plenty of beer for women, children and other temperance people, and lashings of whisky for those who preferred to get drunk with neatness and dispatch, it is hardly necessary to say that he had a crowded house with 'standing room only' for those who arrived after 7 o'clock.

"It will be readily understood that under the inspiriting influence of abundant grog the evening had not far advanced before there was such a tremendous sound of revelry that had there been any police in the vicinity they would have 'pulled' the house and brought the entertainment to an abrupt conclusion. But there being no legal impediments to the festivities, they were conducted upon such a free and easy scale as would have astounded those who lived in a more civilized community. Long before midnight the fun became boisterous and decency received the grand bounce. It was while affairs were in this interesting state that one of the men, who was possibly a little more tipsy than the rest, laid the foundation for a first-class row. The whisky he had drunk excited his affectionate instincts to such a degree that regardless of his surroundings he made advances of a decidedly indelicate character to one of the women, who immediately proclaimed the fact by a squeal that drowned all other noise in the house. Whether her displeasure arose from offended virtue, or whether she was enraged because her

amorous friend had not chosen a more appropriate locality for his demonstration, is an unguessable conundrum. At any rate, the fair creature raised such a tremendous bobbery as to draw upon herself and her admirer the attention of the whole party. Among these was the woman's son, who had no sooner learned the cause of the trouble than he struck out from the shoulder with such vigor and precision that the offending man took a tumble under the table, where he lay for a few minutes trying to discover how many of his teeth had been loosened.

"It might be supposed that a man who had committed such a gross offense against the moralities would have no sympathizers, and that the verdict of the crowd would be that he should be kicked as long as kicking was good for him. This would doubtless have been the opinion of the guests if they had been sober, but being drunk they took a different view of the matter. It should also be remembered that up to this time there had been no fight, and that all hands had taken just enough whisky aboard to make them itch for a scrimmage. The consequence was that within two minutes every man in the room was endeavoring to put a head on his neighbor. No one appeared to know or care what he was fighting about, the chief aim of each belligerent being to put in his knuckles where they would do the most good. It did not take the ladies long to realize that the men were conducting a riot with so much skill and energy that the assistance of the fair sex was entirely unnecessary. In order, therefore, to give the combatants abundant room, and also to get themselves out of harm's way, the women bundled themselves and the children off to the rooms upstairs. The terrific uproar below caused several of them to go into hysterics, and when their condition became known in the lower regions some of the men went up to their relief. The additional burden thus put on the chamber floors was more than they could support and the joists gave way with a crash, precipitating men, women and children and furniture upon the heads of the pugnacious gentlemen on the ground floor. For about five minutes that floor presented an appearance to which no description can do justice. Many of the ladies were standing on their heads, their limbs sticking out of the heap in every direction like the spokes of a busted cart wheel, while their striped stockings waved in the air like signals of distress at the masthead of a water-logged scow. The children screamed, the women shrieked, and the men swore as in their efforts to disentangle the squirming mass of humanity they found that a woman was being pulled out of the heap in different directions. When at last order was restored everybody was surprised to find that nobody was either killed or seriously hurt. The fighting party had escaped the falling floor, and the people from above were none the worse for their tumble. The accident had at least one good result. It brought the row to an end, and now all hands were as ready to bind up their neighbor's wounds as they had lately been to inflict them. As soon as the women recovered from their fright they began to count noses to learn whether any one had been lost. The inventory showed that one of the children was missing, and for a short time the mother was distracted. The young kid was finally discovered in a flour barrel into which it had fallen when the floor gave way, and was restored to its mother's arms along with several pounds of 'double extra' breadstuffs that had powdered the infant from head to foot.

"Having almost torn the house to pieces, pounded each other for about an hour, and nearly succeeded in killing the women and children, it was mutually agreed



that there had been enough fun for one night. The guests therefore collected their wraps, took one more drink all around in token that they bore no ill-will towards one another, and departed assuring their host that they had spent a most delightful evening and that his party had been the most successful affair of the season."

## CHAPTER XLIII

### JACKSONPORT

If an account could be compiled of that now forgotten period when Jacksonport was occupied by the redmen, its history would probably be more interesting than that of any part of the county. There is no doubt that here in the northeastern part of the town and at the mouth of Hein's Creek, emptying out of Kangaroo Lake, were two or three of the largest and most permanent Indian villages in the county.

A great abundance of Indian remains have here been found, including tools and cooking utensils of a great variety. Flint chippings a foot deep covering a large area of ground show that here for generations the arrowmaker plied his trade.

We have preserved to us a few brief glimpses of these Indians that inhabited the shores of Lake Michigan at the mouth of Hibbard's Creek and Hein's Creek 250 years ago. At that time Door County was visited at different times by a number of Jesuit missionaries. These missionaries learned of the recent events among the Indians and transmitted these narratives to the church archives in Quebec and Paris, where they have since been kept.

One of these narratives tells of a great siege that took place around a fortified village located either on Hein's Creek or Hibbard's Creek. The Ottawas had been driven from their old home in lower Ontario by the mighty Iroquois of New York. They emigrated westward, finally settling on Washington Island. Fearing another attack by the Iroquois they sent a scouting party eastward to Lake Erie to apprise them of the approach of the enemy. After some time these scouts saw a large force of Iroquois who were bent on further destruction of the Ottawas and were now seeking their place of refuge. Hastening back to their tribe they acquainted their people of the approach of the enemy.

As Washington Island did not lend itself to a strong defense because of the lack of running water the Ottawas moved southward along Lake Michigan. After a time they found a stream of water with open corn fields in the vicinity. Here on both sides of the stream the men built a heavily palisaded village while the women planted a large field of corn. In both of these undertakings they were successful and before the Iroquois had discovered their whereabouts they had found time to finish their stockade, harvest their corn and bring in a large amount of game. Topographical conditions limit the location of this Indian fort to Hein's Creek or Hibbard's Creek.

Finally one day the Iroquois discovered their stronghold and with savage yells made a furious onslaught on the stockade. This was built, however, of huge green logs thirty feet high, standing close together and firmly buttressed on the inside.

In vain they tried to scale it, to hew it down, to burn it. All these attempts only brought to death the foolhardy attackers.

Seeing all such attacks were in vain the Iroquois now settled down to besiege the village and compel the Ottawas to yield by starvation. In the meantime, however, the Iroquois found great difficulty to feed themselves. The Ottawa hunters had cleaned the vicinity of game and fishing was not always successful. Meanwhile the Ottawas lived in abundance and, like the ancient Roman general, threw loaves of bread over the stockade upon the heads of the besiegers to show how futile their hopes were.

The Iroquois after a time realized that their plans of starving the Ottawas into surrendering were doomed to disappointment. They also became aware of the dismal fact that they themselves were in danger of starvation. Finally they were obliged to make humiliating terms of friendship whereby they were to buy food supplies from the Ottawas at exorbitant prices and thereupon depart.

The Ottawas, rankling with revengeful feelings for the injuries they had suffered from the Iroquois in the past, now trickily planned to teach them a severe lesson. On the day before the departure of the besiegers the Ottawas baked a great quantity of corn bread into which they mixed a deadly poison. They then announced to the Iroquois that in token of their friendship they desired to present each Iroquois warrior with a loaf of bread. This announcement was greeted with great joy by the famishing Iroquois.

The mother of a certain Huron warrior among the Ottawas was a slave to one of the chiefs in the camp of the Iroquois. Fearful of her safety this Huron told his mother in great secrecy not to taste of the bread as it contained death. She was led to reveal this secret to her master the chief. When the bread was tossed down to them this chief gave part of his loaf to a dog which soon died in great agony. Gloomily the hungry Iroquois departed followed by the jeers of the Ottawas.

This is only one of the many events that have taken place in this vicinity. Others are recorded in the chapter on Indian Traditions. What we have preserved to us is, however, only a small fragment of the stirring events that have taken place around Hibbard's Creek, Clark's Lake and Kangaroo Lake. Here the Indians have schemed and struggled, built and destroyed, fought and played. Here great Indian chiefs have made stirring speeches inviting their people to war and conquest. Here great feasts have taken place with human flesh as the chief appetizer, followed by drinking bouts and licentious orgies of dancing.

These things are now forgotten. The forest covers the site of their villages and cornfields and only now and then the sand, sliding under the foot of the pedestrian, reveals a fragment of an Indian skeleton to remind us of the ancient habitation of our dark-skinned brethren.

The history of the present Jacksonport is mild and peaceful compared to that of its former occupants. It is a history which deals with cordwood, corn and clover. The first white men came here for the sake of the cordwood and they stayed for the sake of the clover and corn. From being a lightly esteemed slashing in the wilderness Jacksonport has become a highly important and fruitful agricultural domain.

Exactly fifty years ago, in 1867, three men in Madison were busy planning the future of Jacksonport. It was a nameless lakeside forest then but it formed a very definite picture in their minds and they had high hopes that it would become

their Eldorado. These three men were Col. C. L. Harris, John Reynolds and Andrew Jackson. Harris and Reynolds had about seven thousand dollars each and were now casting about to see how they might increase these seven thousand to seventy times seven. Andrew Jackson was in charge of the Government Land Office in Menasha and learned of the great abundance of cedar and cordwood near the later village of Jacksonport and of the facilities for water transportation. He suggested that as land and labor were cheap and water transportation was convenient there ought to be a mint of money in the cedar and cordwood business. At that time there was only one settler in the present Town of Jacksonport. This was Perry G. Hibbard, a fisherman who had settled there in 1861, who happened to possess the very tract of land needed for a pier. However, he was persuaded to sell for a good consideration.

The next step was to give a name to their embryo city. One suggested Harrisport, another Reynoldsport and a third Jacksonport. Finally the last name was adopted in honor of Mr. Jackson, who was really the father of the plan.

These details settled, a large crew of men were hired in February, 1867, to get down to the real business of the enterprise—that of cutting cordwood. Some accompanied Thomas Reynolds, a brother of John, who was engaged in the capacity of a teamster and drove a team of horses from Madison to Door County, while others followed on the cars. At Green Bay they all assembled on Thomas Reynolds' sleigh, thirty-seven strong, to invade the wilderness of Jacksonport. It was well that they were strong, for the greater part of the road from Green Bay was just then being cut out and stumps stuck up everywhere. Every few minutes the low bunkers of the sleigh would fetch up against a solid stump which threatened to smash the sleigh and precipitate everybody into the snowdrifts.

After innumerable stops for lifting the heavily loaded sleigh over the stumps with much joking and cursing and after many excursions into logging roads which misled them to the right and left, the expedition finally arrived at "Jacksonport." Here they found a shelter in Hibbard's log barn while some temporary shanties were constructed.

The work of cutting cordwood was now begun under the direction of Frank Rowell, a woodsman from Maine. Mr. Rowell is reported to have understood the theory of the timber industry perfectly and kept his books beautifully, but in practical work he was a failure. The men in his charge knew nothing either about the theory or practice of an axe. Every little while one would cut himself, thus making necessary a vacation with extra care and nursing at the company's expense. When they became a little more familiar with the motions of an axe they discovered that some trees would split much easier than others. They got to be experts in searching out the easy splitting trees and made innumerable digressions into the woods in order to find an easy tree, so as to make their cord of wood with as little exertion as possible. This made necessary so much extra cutting of roads that the profit in the wood was lost in the expense of getting it hauled out. Similarly in cutting cedar it was very often cut a little short. When this was received in the market the short pieces were docked so heavily that here, too, the profit was lost. This was the cause of much ill-will between the company, the foreman and the indifferent crew.

An incident shortly afterward happened which, laughable in itself, made the cup of misery in the camp overflow. Thomas Hunt, later of Liberty Grove, who

kept the boarding house for the company, one morning discovered that a skunk had invaded the storeroom. He was at first inclined to step softly and permit the skunk to take his departure in peace. However some of the thirty-seven boarders recommended that the skunk be evicted at once before the food was spoiled. Mr. Hunt therefore first sent his dog in, but this proving ineffectual he seized a shotgun, marched into the skunk's retreat and perforated him with small shot. The skunk slowly expired but not before he had divested himself in his dying agonies of every drop nature had furnished him with for his defense. It happened that the industrious teamster, Thomas Reynolds, had just stocked up the storehouse with a full supply of eatables. There was a ton of butter, several barrels of pork and beef, a large quantity of flour and the usual miscellaneous assortment of groceries. The whole lot was spoiled and had to be thrown away. New supplies were brought in but the house was so full of the extract of polecat that the new provisions smelled and tasted as bad as the others. The whole camp was surcharged with the odor, and for years afterward the house was unfit for habitation. The seventy-nine separate and distinct stinks for which the dirty City of Singapore is noted are as nothing to the smell of one Jacksonport skunk fully roused to business.

All these things made life at the camp so unpleasant that the thirty-seven experts from Madison faded away, leaving only a few men to carry on the work. The overhead expenses, however, remained the same and the company was losing much money. New men were sent in but with indifferent success. Andrew Jackson, the originator of the business, saw that things were going wrong and discreetly withdrew from the partnership. Reynolds and Harris, however, were still hopeful and pushed the business with all means at their disposal. A large pier was built and more houses and a store building were put up. Bad luck, however, continued to follow them and after three or four years the company was bankrupt. Their original capital of \$14,000 was gone and besides that they owed many thousand dollars to Green Bay merchants. Of all the original investors and workmen in this enterprise only Thomas Reynolds remained. He obtained about seven hundred acres of land on part of which he settled down and became a farmer. He became the first permanent settler in Jacksonport and later represented the county in the State Legislature.

Charles Reynolds, a brother of John and Thomas, was a merchant in Green Bay. The firm in which he was a partner was a heavy creditor of Harris & Reynolds. After the Jacksonport property was sold by the U. S. District Court it finally passed into the hands of Charles Reynolds, who believed he could make it pay. He moved to Jacksonport about 1876 and opened a store and eventually became a very successful merchant.

About 1870 there was quite an influx of Canadian and Yankee settlers into Jacksonport. Among the Canadians were Joseph Smith, Emanuel Hogan, Joe Robinson, John Bagnall, Robert Logan, Harry Wilson, Daniel McLean, Walter Lee and J. S. and Alexander Halstead. Among the Yankees were Byron, Royal and Lincoln Erskine from Maine and P. W. Kirtland and John C. Messenger from Connecticut.

The arrival of these and other settlers provided much business for Charles Reynolds. He bought their forest products, doing a business of \$25,000 annually in this line. He also supplied them with everything needed on the farm. In this he developed a unique gift for increasing trade. Whenever a farmer came in to

buy a bar of soap or a few pounds of salt pork he was quickly induced to buy the entire box of soap and the whole barrel of pork. This eliminated much work, weighing and wrapping, and increased the profits of each sale enormously.

Once Emanuel Hogan, an Irish Canadian who had been induced to make such a wholesale investment in pork, came back to complain of his hard luck. He told of how he had put the barrel into his cellar. The rats, however, were so numerous, he said, that they had gnawed a hole in the bottom of the barrel and eaten up every bit of the pork. When he after a while turned the barrel over he found nothing but the brine left. "Well," objected Reynolds, "how is it that the brine did not run away through the hole in the bottom?" "Yes," replied the Irishman unruffled, "isn't that a mystery?"

Another time when he had sold an old woman a lot of matches she came back with them and complained that they would not ignite. Mr. Reynolds tried several on the seat of his trousers and found them all good. But the old Irish woman objected indignantly: "Do you think I can run down here and scratch a match on your pants every time I want to get a light?"

Among these Canadians was Joseph Smith who later became known as "the cedar king" of Door County. For many years he did a business of \$130,000 per year. In 1879 he shipped seventy cargoes of cedar stuff and cordwood. In the '80s he and Warren Bailey had a very large camp on Drummond Island in Lake Huron. Ten thousand dollars' worth of supplies were shipped up to the camp, including 200 barrels of flour grown in Jacksonport and ground in Sturgeon Bay. In spite of his big operations Mr. Smith did not get rich, however. The vagaries of commission men, mismanagement and other troubles left him only enough out of his big operations to buy a farm one-half mile south of Jacksonport. The big house in which Peter Hocks now lives was built by him.

The population of the Town of Jacksonport is now made up principally of Germans. The first of these was John Bley, who came from Canada in the '70s. Most of the land was not settled upon until 1880 and later. In 1880 came August Ernst, August, John and Fred Anschutz, Matt Jonas, John Zelhofer, Chris. Wagener, Ernst Wiegand and others. Most of the Germans in Jacksonport are from Thuringen, the birthplace of Luther, and therefore naturally are Lutherans. A big Lutheran congregation is maintained in the town.

## CHAPTER XLIV

### SOUTHERN DOOR COUNTY

The southern part of Door County, like Caesar's Gaul, may be divided into three parts. In the west, occupying all of Gardner, Union and three-fourths of Brussels, live the Belgians. This settlement continues southward through Kewaunee and Brown counties almost to the City of Green Bay and is the largest Belgian settlement in America. In the middle lies a German settlement occupying the east quarter of the town of Brussels, and the greater part of Forestville and Nasewaupee. In the east, occupying the east quarter of Forestville, the greater part of Clay Banks, the northern part of Nasewaupee and the greater part of the Town of Sturgeon south of the bay, is a Norwegian settlement. There are eight congregations (four parishes) of Belgians, numbering about twenty-three hundred people; seven congregations (six parishes) of Germans, numbering about three thousand people; and five congregations (three parishes) of Norwegians, numbering about eleven hundred people. More than three-fourths of the people are church members. Of other nationalities there are not many representatives now, although the first settlers in all but the Belgian settlement were Yankees.

The greater part of this section is very choice farming land and is now as well tilled and built up as any part of Wisconsin. Clay Banks is a very choice tract of gently rolling clay soil, free from stone but with a narrow fringe of sand along the lake shore. Forestville is a splendid tract of land whose quality is only impaired by occasional small swamps. The conditions are similar in Brussels, although this town has a ridge of limestone running through the west central part of it. Union has considerable sand in the southern part. Gardner is very choice in the western and southern part. In the eastern part is a very large swamp embracing several thousand acres. In the northern part it is stony. Nasewaupee has many swamps and considerable stony land, interspersed with many excellent farms. Sturgeon Bay is very rough in surface and has a vast amount of swamp in the eastern part.

The first settler in this part of the county was Increase Claflin, who was also the first settler in the county. He settled at the mouth of Little Sturgeon May 1, 1835, and the story of his coming is told in Chapter X. He entered his land in 1838. The first land entry in Door County was made in what is now the Town of Union by Richard S. Satterlee. He was army surgeon at Fort Howard and never lived in Door County. His entry is dated February 24, 1836, and covers lots 2, 3, 4 and the southeast quarter of section 21—327 acres—also lots 1, 2 and the northeast quarter of section 28—257 acres. These tracts adjoin each other and lie on the shore of Green Bay. The doctor paid \$730.50 for his lands, which presumably were bought for timber exploitation.

Shortly after Claflin came several other trappers and Indian traders bought

land and settled around Sawyer Harbor in the northern extremity of Nasewaupee. These were Peter Rowley, Peter Sherwood and Frank Sawyer. They would have settled at Little Sturgeon, which at that time and for a generation later was the headquarters for the Indians. On the east side of Little Sturgeon near its mouth was a village of more than five hundred Menominees and Chippewas and here was a good place for bartering. However, Robert Stephenson, Claflin's son-in-law, was the boss here and kept all others out. He was fearless, resolute, savage and indescribably profane—a man of ready wit and readier hit whom both white men and red learned to look upon him with utmost respect. Although he had entered only a small tract of land he laid claim to all the land around the bay and lorded it over every one regardless of Government patents or other claims. Stephenson wanted the Indian trade for himself and he also wanted free pasture in the marshes that surround Little Sturgeon for his many horses. These marshes that give Little Sturgeon such a dreamy appearance was one of the chief attractions that Claflin sought when he settled here in 1835. He brought with him many horses for breeding purposes, for here was pasture made to order and plenty of hay for winter fodder. The horses were brought from Green Bay on the ice and the surplus stock taken to market in the same manner, there being no means of communication by land. In 1837 Robert Stephenson also engaged in horsebreeding at the same place, seldom having less than twenty or thirty on his property. In 1838 four of his horses and several cows were poisoned by a Frenchman with whom he had a little unpleasantness. A crippled Indian living near by had two dogs which drew him on a sled. The dogs visited the place where the Frenchman was fishing and ate some of the fish. The Frenchman revenged himself for this by poisoning the brutes. The Indian complained bitterly to Mr. Stephenson, who administered justice by giving the Frenchman a sound thrashing. Instead of calling the matter quits, the Frenchman brooded on revenge. Finally he secured a quantity of arsenic which he liberally sprinkled upon a stack of hay with the result as told above, whereupon he discreetly fled to other parts.

Robert Stephenson had a large number of children, Fred Schuyler, who knew him well, insisting he had "one every month." One of the first school districts in the county was organized for the benefit of his children. In 1863 he had no less than ten attending school at once. It must not be inferred, however, that he crowded them in educational matters. Most of the time they were out scattered around on the ice, their feet wrapped in rags, pulling in trout faster than their father could haul it to Sturgeon Bay.

Among these children was Albert, commonly called "Butch" Stephenson. He became a well known quack doctor. He had great faith in the curative powers of tea made from the bark of the red willow. When he peeled the bark up the limb it was an excellent means to induce vomiting. When the bark was peeled down the limb it was equally sure as a physic.

The first farmers in the southern part of the county were Nils Torstenson and Philip Jacobs, who took land and started farming in 1852 in what is now a part of Sawyer. A little later the Keoghs and the Perrys came up the Wolf River in a boat and landed near the present Village of Forestville where they took land. They were followed in 1855 and 1856 by a number of others who are mentioned in Chapter XLVIII. To the west of them there were no settlers until the Green Bay shore was reached fifteen miles away through the deep forest. The only



one on the Green Bay shore or in the towns of Union and Brussels before the Belgians came was Tallak Haines. He entered a tract of land in section 2 in Union in February, 1856, and lived there for many years, later settling in the town of Nasewaupee.

As the further history of these communities is better handled by their division into nationalities than by towns they will be thus described in the following pages.

## CHAPTER XLV

### THE BELGIAN SETTLEMENT IN GARDNER, UNION AND BRUSSELS

The following narrative of how the Belgian immigration started and how they came to locate in this part of Wisconsin, told by one of the original immigrants, is of great interest:

"In 1853 ten families, mostly from the commune of Grez Doiceau, County of Wavre, Province of Brabant, Belgium—all of them owning homesteads there, with more or less land, upon which they were able to support their families and provide a suitable education for their children—conceived the idea of emigrating to the New World. With that object in view, they held meetings at each other's houses to discuss what part of America would most likely improve their condition and that of their children. After due consideration, and before deciding what state they would settle in, they sold out their homes in Belgium and, bidding farewell to their relatives and friends in the fatherland, departed for the United States.

"They had contracted with a vessel from Antwerp, and the venturesome emigrants reached that seaport on May 14th, remaining there several days waiting for the departure of the ship in which they had agreed to take passage, meanwhile making preparations to supply their wants during the voyage. May 18th, they boarded the *Queenebec*, an old three-masted sailing craft, which about noon set forth with its 325 passengers, toward the land of promise.

"The names of the heads of these ten families who formed the first Belgian settlement in the County of Brown, are as follows: Francois Petiniot, Etienne Detienne, Martin Paque, Phillip Hannon, Adrian Masy, Joseph Moreau, Jean Baptiste Detienne, Joseph Jossart, Lambert Bodart, and Jean Martin; with them were their wives and children. The passage from Antwerp to New York was long, tedious, and rough, attended with several terrific hurricanes, one of which carried off the mainmast of the ship. There were many hardships, such as hunger, thirst, sickness, and one death; but finally they arrived in New York harbor, July 5th, having been tossed on the troublous sea for forty-eight days.

"Whenever on the voyage the weather was fine, the heads of the families would congregate and there exchange their views about the state likely to be the best for them in which to settle. From a little pamphlet in which several of the western states were well advertised, Wisconsin seemed to the most of the party the best and most suitable on account of its land, its water and its timber, and its climate. This last is nearly the same as that of Belgium, with the exception that the winters are longer in Wisconsin; but considering the purity of its atmosphere, and the large volume of snowfall during the winter months, facilitating traffic, the conditions were thought to be favorable in Wisconsin. A more hopeful little band of emigrants never set sail for America. For honesty, energy and perseverance, considering that they came from a rural district, they were good specimens of a

country whose history shows its love for human progress, for self-improvement, and for self-government.

"It was on board ship that the majority of them decided to locate in Wisconsin; and upon their landing in New York, July 5th, 1853, they proceeded at once towards Wisconsin—with the exception of two families, those of Martin Paque and Jean Martin, who remained in Philadelphia for a few months—arriving in Milwaukee the latter part of July. After a few days in that young city, spent in consultation and rest, they proceeded northward along the lake shore, until they arrived at Sheboygan, where they stopped, believing they had gone far enough. Here they began prospecting for land, and had almost come to the conclusion to settle near that town, having found a suitable location; but as none of them could speak anything but French and the Walloon (a Latin patois, said to be a relic of the Roman Empire), they were considerably annoyed by not being able to communicate with the people of Sheboygan. At this juncture they met a gentleman who could speak French, and he informed them that at Green Bay nearly half of the people spoke that language; and besides that, the land, the water, the timber and the climate were as good as in Sheboygan or anywhere else in the State of Wisconsin. Hence they at once decided to proceed to Green Bay, where they arrived the latter part of August. Here they found many French-Canadian families who could speak their language, and so they decided to locate permanently in the neighborhood of these folk.

"Leaving their families in what is now the City of Green Bay, the men went out of town in search of a suitable location for a settlement. After several days' prospecting they concluded to settle along the Fox River near Kaukauna, about twenty miles south of Green Bay; and were it not for an incident that occurred just at that time, the Belgian settlement would, in all probability, be today situated between Wrightstown and Appleton. But it happened otherwise. The death of a child in the family of Phillip Hannon caused a delay of a few days, and was the means of determining the locality of settlement of 20,000 Belgians who are now in the counties of Brown, Kewaunee and Door. The funeral of the child above mentioned occurred at St. John's Catholic Church, in Green Bay. Father Daems of the Bay settlement happened to be visiting the pastor of St. John's. Father Daems, himself a Belgian, was glad to meet some of his countrymen, and the little band were happy to make his acquaintance. They told Father Daems where they had concluded to settle, but he persuaded them to abandon their first-selected location, forfeit the payments on the entries of land they had made near Kaukauna, and settle on sections 1, 2 and 3, township 24 north, range 22 east; also sections 34, 35 and 36, township 25 north, range 22 east, which sections are adjoining. From that time on this district has been called 'The First Belgian Settlement.' (Fr., *Aux Premier Belges*.)

"Here the little colony lost no time in hunting the deer and the bears, which at that time were in abundance in the neighborhood. Each having selected as much land as he wanted, paid the Government \$1.25 per acre, and at once began to build small hewed-log houses, which they covered with cedar bark, making benches with split blocks, beds with branches and leaves, using their trunks for tables. For several days and nights they were obliged to live and sleep in the open air, with nothing above their heads but the canopy of heaven. On the second night after their arrival, there came a terrific rain-storm which drenched them to the

skin. Phillip Hannon and wife, both of whom are yet living, informed the writer that all they had to protect themselves and their goods from the pouring rain was one umbrella.

"The little party were ten miles away from any house, in a virgin forest consisting of a thick growth of pine, maple, beech, cedar, basswood, etc., many of the trees being five and even six feet in diameter, and some over a hundred and fifty feet tall, without roads of any kind, not even a trail; with no neighbors, no horses, no cattle; nothing but the occasional visit of a wolf, a deer or a bear, coming around their little huts, and on more than one occasion taking the pork they had brought with them. These and other hardships incident to frontier life of those days would have discouraged many people under the same circumstances, but not this brave little band. Their firm belief in Providence, and the desire for self-improvement, gave them courage and strength to acquire a competence in the near future for themselves and their children.

"They had promised their friends and relatives at home that, as soon as they had settled in the New World, they would write to them the facts and circumstances of their voyage, their arrival and their settlement. This promise they kept, within a few weeks of their arrival; without encouraging any one to come and join them, they simply said, after telling the story of their migration, that they were satisfied with their new homes in America. These letters were pored over by thousands of people in Belgium, who would come from long distances to read them. Overlooking all the difficulties, which had not been dwelt upon by the colonists, the Belgians at home were delighted with the fresh descriptions of the primitive American forest, and their passion for acquiring land was thereby quickened. Many of them sold everything they had in Belgium, and hastened to join their former neighbors and friends in Wisconsin.

"In 1854-55 a large stream of Belgian immigrants—estimated at 15,000—followed the trail of the pioneers and, locating on Government land in the counties of Brown, Kewaunee and Door, formed other settlements, naming them as follows: La Sucerie, La Riviere Rouge, La Riviere des Loups, La Misere, St. Sauveur, Rosiere, Walhain, L'Union, Brussels, Thiry Daems, Aux Flamand, Granlez, A la Petite Baie. Everywhere that they could find land in the three counties, the Belgians founded their little colonies.

"The most of these men were tillers of the soil; a few were mechanics, such as masons, carpenters, blacksmiths, machinists, tailors, shoemakers, coopers; some came from cloth factories and other industrial establishments; but all seemed tired of their trades and wanted to become farmers on land that they could call their own. But many of those who came in 1854 and 1855 were doomed to bitter disappointment; for the tilling of the soil was one thing, while the clearing of the land of its heavy timber, in order that the soil might ultimately be tilled, was quite another. Those who had money enough to support themselves and their families for two years could at once go to clearing part of their land, so as to get a crop the second year; but those who were not so fortunate were compelled to work at very low wages, at anything they could find, so as to provide bread for their wives and children. As a result, in 1855, real hardship overtook hundreds of families; the want of work and the high prices for provisions, and no money, necessarily made them suffer for the want of food. Many families were without bread for weeks at a time, feeding on whatever they could find, such as fish, wild onions and

roots. This was followed by a disease resembling Asiatic cholera, attacking nearly every family in the settlement; death resulted in a few days, sometimes in a few hours, the corpse turning black immediately after death. Not a few families lost as many as five of their members in a single week; most of them were buried on their own land and in great haste. This bad news soon reached the fatherland through letters written to relatives; a few returned home, carrying to their old neighbors sad reports of the calamities that had befallen the Belgian settlers of Northeastern Wisconsin; this at once checked immigration, and for the next five years very few families came over.

"During the first four years of the Belgian settlements, the people were struggling to keep body and soul together. Shut out as they were from the world outside, not understanding the English language, and thus far unable to obtain anyone to come and teach it to them, they felt that their lot was indeed a hard one. Nevertheless they were not discouraged; they taught the French language to their children; and held religious meetings in their log cabins, with an occasional priest to visit them and administer to their spiritual wants. Another difficulty against which they had to contend, was the cutting and building of roads, which had to be opened through dense forests, often threading deep ravines and crossing swamps over which they would lay 'corduroy,' which made travel difficult and even dangerous for man and beast. These roads, when cut and built, were less than twenty-five feet wide, and on either side rose enormous trees which prevented the sun from drying them; so that the highways, full of stumps and stones and deep water-holes, were in wretched condition all the year around."<sup>1</sup>

After the first company of Belgian families had become settled in their new homes in the forest of Brown County they sent letters to friends in Belgium. These letters painted things in rather glowing colors, dwelling on the cheapness of the land, the magnificent timber and the superiority of the American form of government. As a result a very large number was induced to follow their venturesome friends to the New World. These people came, several shiploads of them, to America and then by canal boat and lake steamers to Green Bay. Here they scattered, some to work in Green Bay, while most of them settled in the vicinity of the first arrivals in Aux Premier Belges. In order to secure the best lands many of them clubbed together and sent out a couple of experienced surveyors and land seekers from Belgium to hunt lands for them. These surveyors were named Celestine Thiry and ——— Mensart. These two men went north into Door County and first located a lot of land near the shore in the northwestern part of the present Town of Gardner. Here the first Belgians in Door County settled in 1855. These were Henry Gigot, Sr., John Debraux, John B. Tricot, John Balza, Martin Sacotte, John L. Dequier, Joseph and William Delissee. These were followed the next year by E. J. B. Dalemont, John B., Christopher and Alexander Herlache, Joseph Colignon, Jacques, Henry and Nicholas Neuville, Melchior Vranken, John Counard and Joseph Labigois.

In 1856 the same land surveyors also located several colonies of Belgians in Union and Brussels. Among these were Gabriel and his son Joseph De Keyser, Francois Degrandgagnage, Jacques Charles, Guillaume Delwiche, Alexander Ever-

<sup>1</sup> From Xavier Martin's account of "The Belgians of Northeast Wisconsin" in Wisconsin Historical Collections, XIII, pp. 375-380.

ard, Thomas Desmond, Pierre Martin, Chas. Derondal, John Englebert, Leopold Lefevre, Clement Bassine, Joseph Gaspart, Theodore Rouer, Charles Dewit, Antoine Mohemont, Antoine Beaugent and quite a number of others. Most of these people walked in on foot from the Bay settlement—a distance of twenty miles—without roads or trails of any kind. They plunged through the deep forest, crossing swamps and creeks and climbing over the rotting windfalls with their scant possessions and perhaps a baby on their back. One company of them whose lands were near the bay took passage on a small steamer which had just started to navigate the waters of the bay. They were heading for Sugar Creek in the southwestern corner of Gardner, but just before they reached this point the steamer was thrown on the beach. This company had a large supply of potatoes with them for their winter supplies and Melvin Haines, whose father had settled there the preceding spring, tells of how the Belgians toted potatoes on their back up through the woods for weeks. The Belgians, however, are a very patient and thrifty class of people and they did not bemoan the great hardships they had to go through in making a home or a living in such a distant savage wilderness. Hastily making a little den of logs and brush where their wives and children could stay for the time being, most of them left their homes for distant cities where they could find work. Being competent mechanics, artisans and weavers, they thus made their living for the first few years. Now and then they would make pilgrimages on foot, even from Chicago, to see their families.

After a few years of this the work of clearing their farms began in earnest. While doing this they supported themselves by making shingles by hand. In this the whole family helped. The father and the mother sawed the bolts, the father shaved them and the children split and piled them. The best grade was eighteen inches long and one-half inch thick. For this \$1 per 1,000 was paid in Green Bay. In order to get them there it was necessary for the Belgian pioneer first to make them, then to carry them on his back for miles down to the beach, then watch his chance to load them on a passing vessel and finally pay the freight to Green Bay. However, by everlastingly keeping at it the Belgians made money with their shingles. In 1868 four million hand-made shingles were shipped out of Brussels. By this time most of them had obtained a cow or two, which were used both for hauling shingles and plowing.

By incessant toil mingled with good cheer they gradually forged ahead until the wilderness by 1871 was converted into a pleasant settlement with snug log houses and barns. Then one Sunday in October, 1871, an indescribable calamity overtook them. A terrible tornado of fire swept over this section and laid the whole region in utter desolation. Their barns and granaries filled with the fruits of a summer's toil were destroyed in an instant. Their homes were wiped out, their cattle burned to a crisp while fleeing through the woods—even the green timber itself for township after township was totally destroyed. Nothing having wood in its construction escaped. The plow handles were burned in the furrow, the logs in the corduroy roads were consumed, the swamps themselves were burning four feet deep. The people fled in terror to the middle of their plowed fields, thinking that judgment day had come. Yet even here scores of persons were overtaken and burned to death by the all-consuming fire.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> A detailed account of this dreadful visitation is given in Chapter XLVI.

It was a dreary thing to return to where once were their homes after that nightmare of horrors. The sheltering woods were now all destroyed and nothing was to be seen but the charred stumps of trees. Scarcely a house was left standing in the devastated district which was found to be eight miles wide and thirty miles long. All food and shelter were gone and to the calamity of the dead were added the distress and suffering of the living.

But the human mind is remarkably buoyant, and even this tragedy was met and conquered. The Belgians reared their homes anew and converted their blackened woods into fertile fields. Long since all evidence of the fiery tornado has been removed. The observant traveler will note, however, that the region is strangely open for having been a wooded country. The timber that now stands has all grown up since the fire.

The Belgians are very religious and very soon after the first pioneers came they built little log churches where mass was celebrated by visiting priests. The first was St. Mary's in Union, which was built on the site of the present church in 1860. The second was St. Michael's in Brussels. The third was St. John the Baptist, which stood on the farm of David Laviolette. When this church was built and land set aside for a cemetery in 1866 it was found that the soil was too shallow to permit the digging of graves. However, the cemetery tract was consecrated and seeing there was no soil for graves the good Belgians proceeded to bring it in. A stone wall was built to the height of six feet enclosing the cemetery. Thereupon they scraped the hills and knolls of soil and proceeded to fill up the enclosure to the top of the stone wall. Now this "handmade" cemetery stands up above the level of the surrounding fields in a most conspicuous manner, like the first story of an Egyptian pyramid.

In 1871 the adjoining church was destroyed by the great fire. A large part of the congregation did not fancy the idea of burying their dead "up in the air" and a new church was built about a mile to the north, where the soil was sufficiently deep. A few of the congregation, however, particularly John Joseph Robin and the priest, the Rev. Mr. Paradis, insisted upon building on the old site. As arguments failed, Mr. Robin, with the moral support of the priest, proceeded to build and equip the church, paying the entire cost out of his own pocket.

This affair caused much discussion among the people and was a source of great annoyance to the worthy bishop at Green Bay. Delegation after delegation, first from one church, then from the other, wended their way to Green Bay to lay their case before the bishop and claim the episcopal sanction for their church. At first he recognized only the church built by Mr. Robin, but as the delegations did not cease their pleadings he finally after some years recognized the other also. In his comments he observes that he had more trouble over the church quarrel in Gardiner than in all the rest of the diocese combined. As a result there now were two rival churches only a mile apart which became the cause of much ill-will.

About this time there was a Belgian saloonkeeper in Green Bay by the name of John B. Everts whose wife was very ill. After trying several physicians in vain he was finally directed to a spiritualistic medium who claimed the gift of healing. Mrs. Everts was greatly improved by the treatment she received from the spiritualist and soon recovered. When Mr. Everts paid for the services rendered the spiritualist looked at him in a searching manner and said impressively: "You, too, have the gift of healing. And you also have the gift of prophecy. If you will

stop your business of selling rum and permit the spirits to work through you, you will become a great speaker, bringing messages of power to a people hungering for light!" Greatly impressed by this unexpected greeting, Mr. Everts, who had hitherto been a sordid saloonkeeper, renounced his former business and became a great medium.

Soon after this Mr. Everts came to Gardner to visit relatives. While there he held seances in private houses and many were interested. This came to the notice of the priest, Father Stevnard, who in a moment of righteous but unguarded zeal declared that no medium could hold converse with the dead if he (the priest) interposed. This remark caused great developments, as will be seen from the account given below, printed in the Advocate at the time the events took place.

"A religious war is imminent in this town (Gardner) between the Catholics and the spiritualists. A medium from Green Bay named J. B. Everts and the priest who some time last winter came to this part of the county from Canada, are the two leaders in the factional fight which was inaugurated here recently and the indications are that all 'temporal' affairs will have to take a back seat, so to speak, until this question is settled. Some weeks ago, so the story runs, the priest is quoted as having made the remark that it would be impossible for the medium to hold converse with the departed ones if he (the priest) was present and he should ordain otherwise. One of the medium's enthusiastic supporters, a gentleman by the name of Duchateau, residing at Green Bay, offered to wager his reverence a cool \$1,000 if he was capable of performing what he claimed. The challenge was accepted and the 22d day of last June (1885) at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, was designated and a seance arranged to take place at the residence of a certain person in the town. At the appointed time several hundred people had assembled to witness the strange and singular performance. Ten o'clock came and went but no priest. After waiting some time longer a horse and buggy was procured and a messenger dispatched in quest of him. Upon the arrival of the latter at the priest's home his reverence refused to accompany him, alleging that he was not fully prepared, but he was finally persuaded, in view of the exigency of the case, to visit the appointed place of meeting. When the priest finally did put in an appearance he positively declined that which he had previously boasted of; but on the contrary denounced and berated those present in unmeasured terms. This, however, did not satisfy his own people, about forty families of whom forthwith renounced all allegiance to the church and joined the ranks of the spiritualists."

The spiritualists thereupon built a church between the two Catholic Churches in Gardner. Their church is still in use and is supported by about fifty families. They have a resident medium who serves as pastor and is reported to have the gift of healing. They also have frequent visits from other mediums such as trumpet mediums, materializing mediums and others whose supernatural powers are in high repute.

At this time there came to Gardner a very enterprising French Episcopalian minister by the name of Villatte. As the term Episcopalian was not familiar to the Belgians he represented himself as Old Catholic, a term which is sometimes used synonymously and has a more commendable sound to Catholic ears. He preached here for some time and organized a congregation. With outside assistance a large church was built in 1888, also a large guild hall and parsonage. This made the fourth church on the "church road" of Gardner. Having succeeded so



well in proselyting, which is not often indulged in by Episcopalians, he developed ambition to be a bishop and forthwith assumed that title. He also started to collect money to build a college in Gardner which he intended to make his episcopal see. However, his brethren and superiors in the ministry failed to discern his merits and summarily excommunicated him. The church, guild hall and parsonage still stand very prettily among the trees that surround them and there is also a resident pastor. However, he complains that the congregation is a hollow mockery without any religious interest and that in the five years he has lived there he has not had a single call from one of his church members. Down among the Catholics the situation is different. There the priest and his Belgian church members get along most fraternally together.

Owing to the many different congregations in Gardner there is no very strong church in that town. However, just across the line into Brussels is a magnificent temple of worship, St. Francis'. This makes the fifth church on the church road (one having been burned and not rebuilt).

Besides the many churches in the Belgian settlement there are also a number of wayside shrines or chapels. These are very small places of prayer fitted out with an altar and other sacred adornments where the neighbors go to make their devotions, particularly in the month of May.

One particular characteristic of the Belgian settlement is that a saloon is usually to be found next door to each church. Superficial observers have concluded from this that the Belgians are so given to drink that they cannot attend mass without taking a drink before and after the ceremony. This, however, is not the true explanation. The Belgians are a very sociable people, loving nothing better than to get together in a throng and gossip. As the church is held too sacred for such indulgence, the natural result is the nearby tavern, where people can be protected from the heat of the sun or the cold blasts of winter. There are now six saloons in Brussels and the seventh and largest is just across the road in Kewaunee County. Here the people after mass gather in great numbers, talking, gesticulating, laughing and treating each other to a mutual glass of beer. There is, however, comparatively little drunkenness among the Belgians.

In early days, before there were any big saloons, there used to be scores of little ones. This was a result of the same companionship. People used to gather in each other's houses, and as the owner could not afford to treat the company regularly he bought a barrel of whisky. There was no license to pay then. Whisky was only twenty-five cents a gallon. All that was needed besides was a short plank, one glass and all were happy. Almost every one then sold whisky.

The Belgians have many customs which are not often found in American communities. One is the Kermis or Harvest Festival. These begin the last Sunday in August, after the harvest is completed and people are thankful. They are held Sunday, Monday and Tuesday nights in each week for six weeks. Each week they are held at a different saloon and dancehall so that each patient distributor of the foamy lager may get his share of the proceeds. At these gatherings immense throngs gather together to eat, drink, dance and talk Belgian. While the Belgians do very well in English, their mother tongue is invariably used by young and old at their social gatherings.

"Where resounds the Belgian tongue,  
Where Belgian hymns and songs are sung,  
This is the land, the land of lands  
Where vows bind less than clasped hands."

At a recent Kermis there were no less than 2,000 people gathered in one immense dance hall, 104 feet long. Three hundred couples can dance with ease in this hall.

Another custom is the planting of the Maypole. On the first day of May, after a hotly contested town election is disposed of, the people come to do honors to the successful candidates. They bring with them an immense pole, usually balsam, with a tuft of green in the top and gayly ornamented with ribbons and streamers. After this is firmly planted at his front gate they go to shake hands with the officeholder who stands wreathed in smiles and flanked by beer kegs.

Another very pretty custom is the church procession. There are several processions held during the year, the most common being the one in spring held just before Ascension Day. This is called the Rogation procession, so called because people walking in procession are supposed to sing litanies of special supplication. The order of the procession is as follows: First comes the cross-bearer in surplice and cassock bearing the cross. If the cross is not too large this is done by one of the acolytes of the altar. Then follow little girls in white strewing flowers on the wayside. Then comes the priest in sacerdotal robes of dignity, carrying the blessed sacrament on a throne. He is followed by the choir singing hymns. Next come the women and finally the men. These processions start from the church and go to the nearest wayside chapel or around the cemetery and back. The first generation of Belgians were very musical and often used to play many beautiful selections of sacred music. The present generation, however, are reported to know only dance music, and as a two-step or turkey trot does not fit very well in a stately church procession the music has been largely dispensed with.

Besides these processions held at most of the churches there is also a special procession held each 15th of August at the Church of the Blessed Virgin a few miles south of Door County. This is a church which is held in the highest veneration by most Belgian Catholics and many miracles are said to have been performed there. On the spot now occupied by this church a young woman many years ago had a vision. It was on the 15th of August, 1858, as she was on her way home from church. As she came to this spot she suddenly saw the Virgin Mary standing between two trees. As the young woman, Adele Brice by name, kneeled in worshipful humility, the Virgin addressed her, commanding her to give all her time to the dissemination of the Catholic faith and to build a chapel on that sacred spot.

The report of this strange apparition spread immediately to all parts of the great Belgian settlement and people came in large numbers to view this "holy ground." The clergy of the diocese, however, stamped the apparition as a myth and an imposition and the holy sacrament was refused to the girl because she persevered in her assertion of the vision. The people, however, believed her and multitudes used to gather there to worship with Sister Adele, who on certain days would even say mass. The same year a chapel was built. Within five years this was succeeded by a large chapel, a church, a schoolhouse and a convent in which boys and girls are educated and boarded for a nominal consideration.

Now each 15th of August, many thousand people come in cars from all over the Belgian settlement and even from distant states to worship there, also to seek relief from illness and to take part in the great procession. Many from Door County make the pilgrimage on foot in order to approach the sacred spot in a more humble and devotional frame of mind.

The Belgians of Door County are an excellent class of people. They are very thrifty and farm lands are sold for a higher price there than anywhere else in the county. For this reason they are also assessed higher. They are a sociable, pleasant people, frank and generous to people of like mind. They are also very public-spirited. They have several of the best schoolhouses in the county and are very progressive in building good roads. The Town of Brussels has no less than fifteen miles of macadam road, being in this as well as other respects one of the leading towns of the state.

## CHAPTER XLVI

### THE GREAT FIRE OF 1871

There is one event in the history of Door County which in the memory of the people of the southern half of the county stands forth like the recollection of a horrible, indescribable nightmare. This is the great fire of Sunday, October 8, 1871, when in the darkness of the night a great torrent of fire descended upon them like the crash of judgment day, which burnt their farms to barrenness and destroyed their homes, forests and lives of their friends and relatives. In describing such a cataclysm of nature, the pen of a later historian is utterly unable to picture the tragic event. To set forth in orderly narrative the bitter terror and suffering of those night hours is as futile as it is to paint a sunset—only those who went through and survived that night of hell can have or give any conception of its horrors.

The year 1871 is unique in our annals for the havoc that was wrought both on sea and land. On the lakes mighty storms raged at intervals and hundreds of lives were swallowed up by the mighty waves. In Death's Door passage almost a hundred vessels were dashed on the rocks and around the lakes hundreds of other stout ships were tossed ashore or sunk. On land forest fires raged throughout the fall, leveling cities, burning up scores of little settlements in Northern Wisconsin and Michigan and destroying thousands of lives. At Peshtigo more than four hundred men, women and children were burned to death within an hour. Most of these terrible events passed almost unnoticed because they were overshadowed by the greater tragedy of the destruction of Chicago which took place on October 9th.

The summer of 1871 was excessively dry. Cultivated lands became parched and cracked and the swamps dried up. By the middle of September people became very alarmed. Forest fires were raging in many different parts all over the county which could not be put out. The swamps were on fire. Corduroy roads were burning and fences were reduced to ashes. Several mills and many homesteads were from time to time destroyed. No rain came but the fire serpent kept crawling underground, frequently blazing forth, destroying timber which had stood for centuries. The atmosphere all over the county was oppressive to inhale. At night the sight was disheartening. The whole heavens around the horizon were aglow, and the dark red, as seen through the smoky atmosphere, seemed to threaten a greater calamity soon to take place. The days dragged by and the settlers fought the fire as best they could. Each day the people sighed and prayed for rain but each day's cloudless skies and restless winds only added its share to the unceasing drouth.

Sunday (or "Sadday," as it was afterward termed), October 8th, the morning dawned with no perceptible change. In the afternoon the wind was quite

fresh but died down in the evening and an unnatural stillness followed. In a few minutes there came a fierce gust of wind, followed by a loud roaring. In the southwest dense clouds were noticeable. Then a flame shot up quickly followed by many leaping tongues of fire. Soon these flames were almost obliterated however by huge columns of smoke which now and then split apart showing a furnace of fire behind. The terrific roaring of the wind together with the crash of falling trees caused the stoutest hearts to flutter. The night was made more hideous by the startling cries of birds, flying frantically in every direction. Wild animals came bursting into the clearings, with whimpering voices seeking shelter among the bellowing cattle. People heard, saw and felt the terror of the lawless elements that had engulfed them, screamed with terror and fled in confusion along the highways and into their fields. Then suddenly a whirlwind of flame, in great clouds, from above the tops of the trees, fell upon them enveloping everything. It was an atmosphere of fire. People inhaled it and fell down dead. Almost all, both the victims and the survivors, had but one thought—"it is the destruction of the world!"

This tornado of fire swept up from Brown County, overrunning the towns of Union, Brussels, Forestville, Gardner, Nasewaupsee, Clay Banks and Sturgeon Bay. In Gardner and Nasewaupsee a number of big swamps with a thick growth of timber had previously, in September, burned out, leaving large areas where this greater forest fire found but little to feed on. Because of this earlier destruction the fire was hindered and the Village of Sturgeon Bay and the northern towns were saved. The next day, October 9th, the long looked for rain finally came, drenching everything for hours and the fire ceased.

The people of Sturgeon Bay had watched with great terror this approaching storm of fire and knew that down there in the smoke wrapped forest country of Brussels and Gardner a terrible calamity had taken place. On Monday supplies and provisions were collected and a relief expedition started out to give aid. The following account is from a member of the party telling what they found:

"We started for the tornado district with a mule team well loaded with supplies for the destitute ones. The road was filled with burnt and burning trees and at about 4 o'clock in the afternoon a distance of only four miles had been made toward Williamsonville. It was evident that to get the team to Williamsonville (six miles distant) would consume the time of at least another day; hence a portion of the crowd loaded themselves with what they could carry, and set out on foot, while the team retraced its steps. The journey was dreadful! The odor of wild birds and animals, together with that of hogs, cattle and horses that had been roasted alive, mingled with the dense smoke of burning timber, was almost stifling. Some portions of the road were blocked with trees nine deep—burning and smouldering, making the journey both slow and difficult.

"Williamsonville was finally reached—the sight was the most horrible imaginable! Dead bodies were strewn in all directions, and most all burned beyond recognition. Something like thirty-five lay in one heap! Some had one or both legs burned off; another was minus an arm while still another had the head or other parts burned to a crisp—men, women and children composing the pile. The fleshy portion that remained uncharred was cooked through and when moved would fall to pieces! Added to the most affecting sight was the almost unbearable odor that arose from the burned bodies that had been moistened by the drenching rain!

Nearly ten years have elapsed since that terrible sight, yet it is as fresh in memory today as the date it was witnessed—the great black trees stand out now as visionary mourning statues as they stood in reality October 11, 1871.”<sup>1</sup>

Williamsonville was a little settlement established by the Williamson brothers in the dense forest a few miles south of Little Sturgeon—the manufacture of shingles being the main pillar upon which rested the foundation for forming the settlement. A mill, store, boarding house, large barn, blacksmith shop, eight dwelling houses, and minor buildings made up the settlement—all of which were reduced to ashes. About eighty persons were in the settlement at the time of the fire and all perished except seventeen. Of the eleven members of the Williamson family but two escaped—Thomas Williamson and his mother. The village lay in a small clearing of six or seven acres. For a week or two they had been fighting the flames, setting back-fires, and began to feel quite safe. In the evening of the fateful day a violent windstorm came up leveling trees in all directions. This was followed by a sheet of fire that rolled over the treetops. Then came a shower of sparks, large and thick as rain drops. In a moment the buildings were all on fire and a rush was made for a vacant part of the clearing used as a potato patch. Here thirty-five persons huddled together, several hundred feet from the woods, hoping here to be safe from the fire. However, not one of them escaped. Ten feet from them sat old Mrs. Williamson with a wet blanket over her and she was saved. A woman partly covered by the same blanket was roasted to death. Thomas Williamson saved himself by wrapping himself in a wet blanket and rooting face downward into an old ash-bed. Seven men jumped into a well but two of these were burned to death. Two men suffered such intense agony from their burns that they dashed out their brains by pounding their heads against a stump. Besides the three-score human beings who were cremated in this spot, there were also burned to death 16 out of the 17 horses, 5 out of the 6 oxen and 40 swine.<sup>2</sup>

While Williamsonville lost more lives than any other settlement in Door County because of its comparatively large population, the awful scenes that were here enacted were repeated in scores of other places. Throughout almost the entire southern half of the county the fire raged like a hurricane and almost everywhere the humble but superstitious people believed that judgment day had come. Certainly no judgment day could come more swiftly, more unmercifully, more terribly. The ominous warning sound coming from the distance when the sky, so dark just before, burst into great clouds of fire, the beasts of the forest running for succor into the midst of the settlements, and the great, consuming, roaring hell of fire engulfing all was an experience never encountered by man or beast. The dreadful scene lacked

<sup>1</sup> From C. H. Martin's account in Martin's History of Door County, pages 103, 104.

<sup>2</sup> A few miles west of Williamson's mill was a new shingle mill just erected by Scofield & Co. Fourteen men were here at work installing the machinery. When the avalanche of fire swept down upon them the fourteen men made a dash for a point where a small flume had been built in a creek. The water-course had been dry for some time owing to the long continued drouth but there was a little water and mud left in a hollow. Ten of the men were struck down by the fire at the top of their speed and were all burned to death. Four of the men reached the mudhole and threw themselves face downward in the puddle. Even here two of the men were scorched to death.

nothing but the sounding of the last trumpet—and, indeed, the approach of the awful roaring and the premonitions from the distance supplied even that to the appalled imagination of the people.

Below is given a list from the Door County Advocate of October 26, 1871, of the loss of life and property in Door County on the night of October 8th:

The following is a list of the dead:

#### BRUSSELS

M. Schwerger, father-in-law, wife and five children.  
 — Schiller, wife and one child.  
 Jos. Dartl, mother, wife and five children.  
 George Colbeck, wife and two children.  
 Mich. Mellercey, wife and four children.  
 Louis Weis, wife and one child; body of one child not found.  
 Frank Moulton, wife and two children.  
 One child of C. Powlect.  
 Joseph Schwat and a daughter of Louis Weis.  
 A German family of four persons, names unknown.  
 John McNamee, John Doherty, Sarah Connors, Mary Disotel, John McWilliams, John Wood, John Crow, Paulette Legat.  
 An adopted child of G. J. Gilson.

#### AT WILLIAMSON'S MILL

Joseph Married, wife and three children.  
 Nelson Dimrow, wife and two children.  
 Michael Adams, wife and three children.  
 John Williamson, wife and one child.  
 Jos. Marcoix, wife and two children.  
 James Williamson and wife.  
 Mrs. Buckland and two children.  
 Unknown French woman and two children.  
 Thomas Crane, Thomas Whelan, John O'Connors, Dan Nicholson, Chas. Duncan, Frank Borway, Emery Jervis, Jason Williamson, John Conlan, George Buckland, Unknown woman, J. Williamson, Sr., Henry Jervis, James Whelan, Maggie Williamson, James Donlan, Freddy Williamson, Mike Rogan, Maggie O'Neil, John Ahearn, Patrick Ahearn, Frank Donlan, Charles Weinbeck, Louis Longley, Peter Bordway, Maggie Heaney, Joseph Verbonker.  
 Unknown woman.  
 Four unknown bodies found in the woods.

#### AT SCOFIELD & CO'S MILL:

Twelve unknown men.

#### NASAWAUPEE

Casper Lorch and two sons.

#### WOUNDED

The following is a list of the wounded at the Williamson's Mill fire:

Joseph Buckner, both legs burned off.  
 John Marshall, feet slightly burned.  
 Michael Whelan, feet badly burned.  
 Benjamin Wallace, eyes badly burned.  
 J. Collins, face and hands badly burned.

M. Carmody, feet and eyes burned.

Owen Collins, hands slightly burned.

C. M. C. McCusker, face and feet burned.

John Mullan, eyes injured.

Boyd Merrill, face, hands and feet badly burned.

Serlie Jervis, face and hands slightly injured.

J. Donlan, feet burned.

Capt. Richmond, hands and face slightly burned and a Frenchman, whose name has not been ascertained, had his feet slightly burned.

The following is a list of those who had lost barns, crops, houses or other property:

## FORESTVILLE

J. Buckholz, house, barn, grain and feed.

Samuel Perry, house.

John Stoneman, house, barn and fourteen head of sheep.

And. Paul, house and wearing apparel.

William Miller, barn and hay.

Ernest Walski, house and contents.

Anton Theiron, grain and hay.

Anton Lindauer, house and grain.

John Combers, house and contents.

John Wolf, barn and grain.

John Merrill, barn and hay.

## NABEWAUPEE

Fred Monk, house and contents, barn, farm crops, cattle and farming tools.

D. Greenwood, house and contents, barn, crops and farming tools.

C. Feldmann, house, barn, crops and farming tools.

L. Schumacher, house and contents, barn, crops, cattle and farming tools.

George Senft, house, barn, crops and farming tools.

Joseph Harris, Jr., house and barn on farm.

S. Malony, house and contents, two barns, crops and farming tools.

John Murray, house and contents, barn, crops and farming tools.

John Bink, house and contents, barn, crops, cattle and farming tools.

John Lang, barn and crops.

C. H. Stephan, house and contents, barn, crops and farming tools.

Caspar Lorch, house and contents, barn, crops, horses and farming tools.

Casper Lorch, house and contents, barn, crops, horses and farming tools.

Peter Lorch, house and contents, barn, crops, cattle and farming tools.

P. Delmbach, house and contents, barn, crops, cattle and farming tools.

Peter Leonhardt, house and contents, barns, crops and farming tools.

A. Goettelman, barn, crops and farming tools.

John Mullane, house and contents, crops and farming tools.

John Mann, house and contents, barn, crops and farming tools.

Richard Kinney, house and contents, crops and farming tools.

William Davis, house and contents, crops and farming tools.

B. Kinney, house and contents.

Noel Langlois, house and contents, barn, crops and farming tools.

M. Daley, barn and crops, six cattle and farming tools.

M. Curry, barn and crops.

M. Reardon, house and contents.

John Broderson, house and contents and barn.

Barney Cavanagh, house and contents, barn, crops, cattle and farming tools.



John Pfisterer, barn and crop.  
 Francis Donlan, barn and crop.  
 Barney Donlan, house and contents, barn, crops and farming tools.  
 Mrs. Burdeau, house and contents, barn, crops and farming tools.  
 John Rogan, barn and crops.  
 P. Gormley, barn and crops.  
 D. O'Hearn, furniture and wearing apparel.  
 J. Baumgarden, house and barn, premises leased by Thos. Davis, who lost crops on same  
 and one cow.  
 Wm. Mulverhill, house, barn and hay.  
 Ed. O'Hearn, house, barn and hay.  
 John Gallach, house, barn and crops.  
 Gotlieb Magler, and brothers, house and contents and crops.  
 H. Buschmann, barn and part of crops and horse power of threshing machine.  
 Three school houses.

## UNION

G. Fabrey, house and contents, barn, crops and farming tools.  
 J. Johnson, house and contents, barn, crops and farming tools.  
 Francois Delvaux, house and contents, barn, crops and farming tools.  
 William Laluzerne, house.  
 Wm. Girondel, house and contents.  
 Emil Befay, barn, crops and furniture.  
 Gustav Pensis, house and contents.  
 P. Geryais, barn, crops and furniture.  
 Frank Evrard, barn, crops and farming tools.  
 Martin Couillard, barn and crops.  
 Francis Counard, house and contents, barn, crops and farming tools.  
 Caspard Duvy, house and contents, barn, crops and farming tools.  
 Guilaime Lenais, household goods, barn, crops and farming tools.  
 Charles Gulette, house and contents, barn, crops, farming tools and cattle.  
 Jean Dejean, house and contents, barn, crops and farming tools and part of cattle.

## GARDNER

William Delsipee, barn and crops.  
 D. Coffin, barn and crops.  
 B. D. Welden, house and contents, barn, crops and farming tools.  
 H. Gigot, house and contents, barn, crops and farming tools.  
 J. B. Tricot, house and contents, barn, crops and farming tools.  
 A. Corbisier, house and contents, barn, crops, cattle and farming tools.  
 J. Colignon, house, barn, contents and farming tools.  
 J. Henquinet, house and contents, barn, crops and farming tools.  
 J. Corbisier, house and contents, barn, crops and farming tools.  
 P. Farley, house and contents, barn, crops and farming tools.  
 J. Robin, house, farm and crops.  
 C. Lavalette, house and contents, barn, crops and farming tools.  
 J. Lalune, house and contents, barn, crops and farming tools.  
 H. Neuville, house and contents, barn, crops and farming tools.  
 L. Laluzerne, house and contents, barn, crops and farming tools.  
 J. Dalemont, barn and crops.  
 Wm. Claffin, house and crop.  
 J. Neuville, house and crops.  
 Williamson's shingle mill and all buildings (12 to 15) connected with it.  
 Three school houses and two churches.

## BRUSSELS

Boarding house, mill and other buildings of Seofield and Leatham.  
 Toussant Dachelet, barn, crops and furniture and clothing.  
 Francis Denis, house and contents, barn and crops and stock.  
 Eugene Renquin, house and contents, barn and contents.  
 Oliver Dedecker, house and contents, barn, crops and stock.  
 Chas. Piette, house and contents, barn, crops and stock.  
 Alexander Meunier, house and contents, barn, crops and part of stock.  
 Eli Simons, house and contents, barn and crops.  
 Frank Legreve, house and contents, barn and crops.  
 Louis Coisman, house and contents, barn, crops, farming tools and part of cattle.  
 Theodore Labotte, house and contents, barn, crops, farming tools and cattle.  
 Louis Caspart, barn and crops.  
 Adrian Francois, house and contents, barn, crops, farming tools and cattle.  
 Joseph Francois, house and contents, barn, crops, farming tools and cattle.  
 Peter Francois, two barns, crops and farming tools.  
 J. B. Englebret, house and contents, barn, crops, farming tools and cattle.  
 Joseph Englebret, house and contents, barn, crops, farming tools and cattle.  
 Desire Englebret, house and contents, part of crops and farming tools.  
 J. F. Flemal, house and contents, barn, crops, farming tools and cattle.  
 Charles Mignon, house and contents, barn, crops, farming tools and cattle.  
 N. Mignon, house and contents, barn, crops, farming utensils and cattle.  
 Antoine Moheumont, barn, crops, farming tools and cattle.  
 Clement Bassine, house and contents, barn, crops, farming tools and cattle.  
 J. B. Denamur, house and contents, barn, crops, farming tools and cattle.  
 Unknown, house and contents, barn, crops, farming tools and cattle.  
 J. B. Dewitt, house and contents, barn, crops, farming tools and cattle.  
 Chas. Dewitt, barn, farming tools and part of crops.  
 Constant Flemal, house and contents, barn, crops, farming tools and cattle.  
 Leonard Leclou, house and contents, barn, crops, farming tools and cattle.  
 Eugene Delforge, house and contents, barn, crops, farming tools and cattle.  
 Francis Martin, house and contents, barn, crops and farming tools.  
 J. J. Lemay, house and contents, barn, crops, farming tools and cattle.  
 C. Massart, house and contents, barn, crops, farming tools and cattle.  
 Dr. Antoine, house, contents and pharmacy.  
 Chas. Rouer, house and contents, barn, crops, farming tools and cattle.  
 Jos. Rouer, house and contents, barn, crops, farming tools and cattle.  
 Louis Mignon, house and contents, barn, crops, farming tools and cattle.  
 Peopold Lefebvre, house and contents, barn, crops, farming tools and cattle.  
 John B. Staubauss, house and contents, barn, crops, farming tools and cattle.  
 P. J. Rinier, house and contents, barn, crops, farming tools and cattle.  
 Fillician Marceaux, house and contents, barn, crops and farming tools.  
 Joseph Piette, house and contents, barn, crops, farming tools and cattle.  
 Francis Gaspart, house, barn and crops.  
 J. J. Bero, house and contents, barn, crops, farming tools and cattle.  
 E. Vandengendertalen, house and contents, barn, crops and farming tools.  
 A. Naniot, house and contents, barn, crops, farming tools and cattle.  
 Alex. Pierre, house and contents, barn, crops, farming tools and cattle.  
 Prosper Naze, house and contents, blacksmith tools, barn, crops and farming tools.  
 John Fauville, house and contents, barn, crops, farming tools and cattle.  
 Isidore Tremble, house and contents, barn, crops and farming tools.  
 Chas. Tibone, house and contents, barn, crops and farming tools.  
 Pascal Francois, house and contents, barn, crops, farming tools and cattle.  
 J. G. Gilson, house and contents, barn, crops, farming tools and cattle.  
 Antoine Verlee, house and contents, barn, crops and farming tools.  
 Francis Springlier, house and contents, barn, crops, farming tools and cattle.  
 Eloi Meunier, house and contents, barn, crops and farming tools.

## HISTORY OF DOOR COUNTY

A Bohemian family lost house and contents, barn, crops and farming tools.

One school house.

The nine families in this town, the members of which were all burned to death, also had everything burned.

## STURGEON BAY

Geo. Leaser, house and contents.

One school house.

Bradner, Charnley & Co., on timber and logs, \$15,000.00.

C. L. Chase, on tan bark, \$2,000.00.

Furniture and wearing apparel of H. L. Oleson.

Furniture and wearing apparel of Aug. Cocagne.

O. Oleson, clothing and bedding.

## SEVASTOPOL

Luke Coyne, barn and crop.

## CLAY BANKS

W. H. Horn, store and contents, saloon, boarding house and barn and contents.

John Polinsky, clothing and bedding.

Peter Stephane, clothing.

Wenzel Setwosky, clothing.

Ed. Lawton, clothing.

A. Blasier, clothing.

Levi Blasier, clothing.

William Busky, clothing.

B. F. Murphy, clothing and bedding.

————— Burmeister, clothing and bedding.

————— Burmeister, clothing and bedding.

Anton Stern, clothing and bedding.

John Hunt, clothing and bedding.

W. Heimbecher, clothing, provisions and shoemaker tools.

A. Streich, clothing, bedding and provisions.

James Fronsoe, clothing, bedding and provisions.

Aug. Nemeyer, clothing, bedding and provisions.

F. Lutman, clothing.

The list gives 128 persons burned to death, and fourteen severely burned. Many others in the different settlements were burned of which record has been lost.

One hundred and sixty-seven families and single persons were rendered homeless, in most cases losing clothing, houses, barns, crops, furniture, farming tools and everything they had but the bare land and the clothes on their backs. In addition to these, nine families in Brussels and the families at Williamson's mill also lost everything and their lives. A small proportion, probably a tenth, were partially burned.

About two hundred other farms suffered by the destruction of their fences, timber and in some cases parts of their crops burned over while in the ground.

The total loss in the county by the fire was about \$700,000. The insurance did not exceed \$40,000 in the whole county.

Two mills, 2 boarding houses, 3 churches, 6 schoolhouses, 3 stores, 2 saloons, 148 dwelling houses and an equal number of barns were swept away.

## CHAPTER XLVII

### THE GOLDEN AGE OF LITTLE STURGEON

About a mile west of Little Sturgeon Bay the shore rises boldly from the water's edge to a perpendicular cliff about seventy feet in height. This cliff has a most picturesque location commanding nearly all of Green Bay. Off to the right lies Sturgeon Bay deeply indenting the land. To the left lies Green Island and the cities of Marinette and Menominee. While straight ahead lies headland after headland that marks the bold shore of Northern Door County.

Backed up against the base of this cliff stand two huge cylinders, resting upon a massive masonry foundation, 75 feet long. The cylinders are 40 feet in height and 15 feet in diameter. It takes but little imagination to see in them two huge howitzers uptilted against the sky, ready to pour out their burden of destruction as soon as an enemy appears on the waters of distant Death's Door.

But these ominous-looking cylinders were not engines of destruction but of construction. They were erected to help rebuild Chicago. Half a century ago when the great Chicago fire laid that city in ashes, there was a great demand all over the middle west for material with which to rebuild the city. Stone, brick, lumber and lime were needed. It was to partly fill this last want that these cylinders were erected.

One day in the fall of 1871 a steam yacht containing a party of Chicago business men with their ladies, floated by this cliff. They were the guests of F. B. Gardner. As they came abreast of this romantic headland a big contractor who was a member of the party exclaimed:

"See what waste of good material! Here is a mountain of limestone and in Chicago we are at our wits end to get lime!"

"No waste at all," replied Mr. Gardner. "This cliff stands here in reserve, awaiting our need. One kiln is ready and more can be built. If you need lime I will send you 1,000 barrels a week. I own that cliff."

The price was quickly agreed upon and Mr. Gardiner at once took steps to erect two more modern patent process lime kilns. Skilled mechanics were engaged, the material assembled and soon the lime kilns built on the most improved scientific lines, stood complete.

A driveway was built to the top of the kilns, while at the bottom were three openings through which the lime was drawn every six hours. A big boarding house was erected on the top of the bluff and at base of the kilns a substantial pier was built, 75 by 300 in size. For many years vessels made weekly trips from this pier to Chicago, with their cargoes of lime. Wm. Anger who used to be employed at the kilns, says they used to burn about one hundred and sixty barrels per day.

Long since the business days of these old lime kilns have passed away. Their

very existence is unknown to the greater part of the people of Door County. The old boarding house, where once resounded the jests of the workingmen, is now a crumbling ruin. The old trails, once deeply rutted by the creaking stone wagons, are now grassy lanes, studded with bluebells and buttercups while birches and dogwoods now grow out of the crumbling masonry that line the mouths of the giant cylinders.

This Mr. Gardner, who built and operated these lime kilns, was one of the most remarkable men who have come to Door County. Little Sturgeon Bay has once more lapsed into its primeval peace of reeds and rushes and sloping meadows, but in Gardner's time it was by far the busiest place on the peninsula. He came here in the early '50s buying the old homestead of Increase Claflin, October 18, 1854. On this point of land where a few years previously stood the first cabin erected in Door County, he built up an industrial plant which at the height of its activities employed about four hundred men.

Mr. Gardner's first venture was a sawmill which employed about fifty men, and a grist mill. This was the first grist mill in the county and was a great boon to the farmers. Sometimes forty to sixty farmers at a time would come creaking through the timber with their slow oxen from Red River and Clay Banks and Luxemburg, to meet at the mill the distant pioneers of Washington Island and the north, who brought their grain in pound boats. To accommodate these men Mr. Gardner built a roomy house where they could cook and sleep, while waiting for their grist. He also built a three-story store building, 30 by 60, with basement, filled with all manner of implements, merchandise, vehicles and farm machinery, needed in a new country. All kinds of produce were taken in exchange. Up to within recent years this was the largest merchandise establishment in the county.

In the winter of 1868 a lath and a shingle mill was added, the shingle mill had a capacity of 80,000 shingles a day. A store house, 425 by 40, was erected for them.

Ship building had been going on for some time but about this time it assumed new proportions. At one time Mr. Gardner employed about a hundred ship carpenters at Little Sturgeon, besides hundreds of other men in the woods, teaming, milling, etc. Wm. Baptist was general foreman.

The shipbuilding was under the immediate management of Thomas Spear, an old ship builder from the State of Maine, where he had built many salt water vessels. He was draughtsman and boss. His son, Marshall, was expert carpenter, and his son, George, was expert caulker.

Among the vessels built at Little Sturgeon were the John Spry, the Ellen Spry, the Halstead, the Norman, the Ozaukee, the Pensaukee, the F. B. Gardner and the J. W. Doan.

After the Chicago fire business had a great revival and freight rates were very high. It took about ten days to make a round trip to Chicago and Mr. Gardner needed many vessels to carry his lumber. Shipbuilding was therefore pushed with all possible speed. When the keel to the J. W. Doan was laid Mr. Gardner half jestingly offered Tom Spear a bonus of \$1,000 if he could launch it in sixty days. For two months there was a whirlwind of hustle at the shipyard infecting all from the boss to the water boy. Finally it came to a triumphant climax on the fifty-ninth day when the new boat slipped into the water all ready to be towed to Chicago to be equipped with rigging. She did not go empty, however, but took

700,000 feet of lumber on board, for which Mr. Gardner was paid \$7 per 1,000 in freight charges, or a total of \$4,900 for less than a week's rent.

The J. W. Doan, in spite of the record-breaking speed in its building, proved to be one of the smartest schooners on the Great Lakes. At one time she was loaded at Buffalo ready to sail for Chicago at the same time as the Annie M. Peterson—a boat famous for its fast trips. The captains wagered \$200 apiece on the speed of their boats and started from Buffalo at the same time. All through the voyage it was nip and tuck, the vessels passing each other several times due to skillful maneuvering. Finally, however, the J. W. Doan pulled into the Chicago River two hours ahead of the Annie Peterson.

With all this business Little Sturgeon was a most active place. Many old settlers claim that it was more of a business place at the time of the war than Sturgeon Bay. "Sturgeon Bay was the county seat," they claim, "but Little Sturgeon had the business." For years at least one vessel per day during the season of navigation took on her load of lumber, lime or produce and sailed off. In 1862, when Hon. Joseph Harris started the Door County Advocate it was seriously debated whether it would be wise to move the newspaper to Little Sturgeon. As the only road to Green Bay at that time passed through Little Sturgeon it was just as accessible there as Sturgeon Bay.

Besides so many other first things Little Sturgeon also had the first base ball club in the county. A club was organized here in 1869, called the Empire Base Ball Club. The same spring Sturgeon Bay followed suit and organized the Peninsula Base Ball Club. The muscular millmen of the peninsula challenged the brawny huskies of the Empire to a game to be played July 3d. The challenge was accepted with a whoop.

On the morning of July 3d, the eager batters of the Empire embarked with a whole flotilla of ardent fans for Sturgeon Bay, when the greatest game in the history of Door County was played. Unfortunately the Empires were so sure of victory that they began to celebrate before the battle. As a result the game was lost to the score of 68 to 92!

On February 1, 1868, Mr. Gardner sold his Little Sturgeon plant and property to Bailey & Vincent. No consideration is recorded. Bailey & Vincent, however, gave Mr. Gardner a mortgage in the property to the amount of \$54,000, which, according to the usual computations, would indicate that the property was worth more than one hundred thousand dollars.

This sale was not of lasting duration as the property reverted to Mr. Gardner November 11, 1869. It now remained in Mr. Gardner's possession until 1875 and the business was pushed with great energy.

The business at Little Sturgeon was only a small diversion for Mr. Gardner who had many and far greater projects in hand. At Pensaukee he was operating the largest sawmill in the northeastern part, if not the entire state. This mill cut more than eight hundred thousand feet of lumber per week. Chas. Scofield, the father of H. C. Scofield, was his foreman at Pensaukeec. Mr. Gardner left him in complete charge of the business for several years while he spent the time in Europe. It is said that during this time the mill earned for Mr. Gardner a profit of \$1,000 per day.

With such profits the desire for expansion was, no doubt, irresistible. The Menominee River was just being developed as a highway for the logging com-

panies and Mr. Gardner therefore decided to erect a mill at Menominee or Marinette. However, all river frontage was bought up and the owners combined to keep Mr. Gardner out. It was therefore impossible to buy a foot of land. Nothing daunted, Mr. Gardner sunk a series of mammoth cribs in the river and upon these he erected his mill. This was later the Ludington, Wells and Van Schaack Co. Mill and is now the site of the mammoth million dollar beet sugar factory.

Besides mills and shipyards Mr. Gardner was also interested in building hotels. In Chicago he built the finest hotel of its time, The Gardner, later known as The Leland, which even today survives on Michigan Avenue as one of the more elegant hotels of the city. At Pensaukee he built another which was even more of a marvel. This little town in the wilderness was very dear to Mr. Gardner as being the place of his first real successful business. He therefore determined to erect a hotel there which would be an honor to Pensaukee even after it should become the city he dreamed of making it. He spent more than a hundred thousand dollars in erecting a four story brick hotel said to have been equal to The Beaumont of Green Bay before the latter was remodeled. It had marble fireplaces, porphery pillars, and other wonderful trimmings scarcely equaled in the entire state. But this amazing hotel, the talk of all travelers, met a sudden and disastrous fate. Hardly was it completed when in 1878 it was struck by a cyclone and completely demolished. A 6,000 pound safe went spinning over the ground. Checks, papers and account books, out of the safe, were picked up by the wind and carried clear across Green Bay and later found in the fields around Sturgeon Bay. Capt. Ed Cox picked up a piano screen near the Parkinson place in Sevastopol, which had been torn out of a piano in the Pensaukee Hotel. A large store building, also belonging to Mr. Gardner, was whirled away by the wind and never found. Planks from the mammoth lumber yard were picked up in Jos. Dalemont's field near Little Sturgeon.

This disaster, following upon a series of heavy business reverses, was a heavy blow to Mr. Gardner. His health also failed. Not long after this he was suddenly struck dead by apoplexy while walking to the station in Pensaukee.

Mr. Gardner was a quick, dapper little man of instant decisions. He was careful in little things but bold and adventurous in big enterprises. He was very popular with his employes as he was sympathetic, generous and always ready to help an unfortunate whether he was an employe of his or some poor struggling Belgian pioneer back in the brush. Many of these had bought their farm lands from Mr. Gardner, paying for them in work. In one thing, however, he was stern and that was in permitting no drinking around his property. When their thirst became ungovernable it was necessary for the men to march two or three miles down the road to Henry Gigot's to get it satisfied.

In spite of this to them strange prohibition he was very popular with his Belgian associates and when the town was organized in 1862, he was honored by having his name bestowed upon it.

In 1875 the boom following the Chicago fire collapsed and a disastrous panic followed. Lumber and timber were almost unsalable and many lumber concerns failed in business. Such was also the case with Mr. Gardner and he sold his Little Sturgeon plant to Albert Marshall Spear. He pushed the business energetically for a year or two, sawing vast quantities of lumber and shingles. Much of the lumber was shipped direct to Europe. He also cut and stored 50,000 tons

of ice for shipment. One night in February, 1877, a fire broke out in the blacksmith shop. A strong wind was blowing and the fire soon reached the mill by means of connecting slab piles. The entire manufacturing plant was destroyed. This proved too great a loss to the owner and he sold his interests to William Anger who in turn sold to the Piper Ice Co. The ice company erected five large ice houses on the point north of the mill site and employed about a hundred men during the winter in cutting ice. They also had a fleet of five schooners during the summer engaged in carrying the ice to Chicago.

In 1898 this ice company was absorbed by the ice trust and business at Little Sturgeon came to a standstill. Little by little the evidences of its old time activities disappeared. The huge ice houses were torn down. The large store building was bought by Louis Reichel of Sawyer and the material used in building his canning factory. Several other buildings were moved to Sturgeon Bay on the ice. Among them was a large building now used as a warehouse by Young Bros. & Co., at Sawyer, next to the railroad tracks. The big piers built of huge pine logs have crumbled down. The stones of the old grist mill that fed our first pioneers have been chipped up and carried away by relic hunters. Scarcely a bolt or a board remains of all the equipment that once made Little Sturgeon famous as the busiest place on the peninsula. The peace and quiet of an obscure summer resort has descended upon it, and it lies almost as tranquil and primeval as the day when Increase Claffin first settled on it in 1835.



## CHAPTER XLVIII

### THE GERMAN SETTLEMENT IN FORESTVILLE AND NASEWAUPEE

The early history of every town abounds with the names of a number of temporary sojourners who later played little or no part in the history of their community. They were usually transient laborers, fishermen or woodchoppers who stayed only long enough to fell a few trees and then move to other parts. To clutter up our records with the meaningless names of these temporary lodgers is but to cause confusion to the later student of our history. In this history of Door County an attempt has not been made to record the presence of every early individual who set foot on Door County but rather to tell of the chief events and men which lead up to the present permanent and well ordered communities.

With this purpose in view, of separating the transient from the permanent, we see the towns of Forestville and Nasewaupee with the adjoining part of Brussels as one large German settlement whose principal settlement dates back to about the year 1870. Forestville is at present looked upon as the front door of Door County but this is since the railroad came. The reason this and the adjoining parts of Clay Banks, Brussels and Nasewaupee, now properly considered the banner farming section of the county, were settled so late is that practically all the early settlers came by water. Along the water front little villages sprang up and their immediate vicinity was early settled up. Forestville, the southern part of Nasewaupee, the eastern part of Brussels and the western part of Clay Banks were far from the shore and therefore their settlement was late.

There is, however, in Forestville an important exception to this classification. This township in early days had a back door—now used no longer—by which the first and many of the best settlers of the town entered. This back door was the Wolf (later called the Ahnapee) River, now a sluggish creek of no commercial importance but once a deep river on which for more than twenty years steamboats and heavily laden barges used to navigate up and down. This stream drains the greater part of Southern Door County and before the land was cleared of timber it carried much water.

The early settlement of Forestville was largely due to an accident. One day in May, 1855, a steamboat stopped at Manitowoc to deliver a little freight. It was the later ill fated Lady Elgin, plying between Buffalo and Chicago. Among the passengers were four young Irishmen bound for Chicago and Galena, Ill. While the boat was unloading its freight these men took a stroll on the shore to see the sights of the little village. They were James Keogh, Sr., and John, Richard and Matthew Perry. Wandering a little too far they were suddenly alarmed to see the Lady Elgin backing away from the pier. They rushed down to get aboard but too late. The steamer had gotten under headway with Mrs. Keogh and her

babies frantically besieging the captain to put back and get her husband. However, the fare was paid and the lordly captain merely shrugged his shoulders.

While these four men were standing on the pier debating their dilemma with many bristling Irish adjectives for the arrogant captain they were approached by an elderly man of imposing appearance who gave his name as "Major" McCormick. After he had listened to their tale of woe for awhile he suddenly astonished them by saying:

"Boys, you ought to be happy instead of grumbling. You were never in better luck than when that boat left you. Instead of going to Galena and slaving in the lead mines for \$1 a day, you come with me and I will show you the best place in the West, where there are all kinds of chances of making money."

Dubiously they asked him where he hailed from.

"I am from a new town up in Door County about forty miles north of here,"<sup>1</sup> he said. "I have a sawmill, a hotel and a townsite there. The timber is grand and the soil is excellent. We have a fine waterfall to give us cheap power and we intend to start a blast furnace. We have discovered a deposit of choice marble near by. All we need to make a first class city is men and we are willing to pay them better wages than anywhere else in America. You come with me and you will get the right start."

Keogh, who was thinking of his wife, carried off to a strange city without money, was not interested. However, the major explained that no boat would leave for Chicago for a week and they would have plenty of time to go with him. It would cost them nothing.

Persuaded by the major's eloquence they finally decided to visit his eldorado while waiting for the Chicago boat. McCormick had a Mackinac boat and they made their way to Algoma (then called Ahnapee) in this. From this point they rowed and poled their way up the little river for about ten miles. When they got up to the major's townsite, however, they were disappointed. His sawmill did not exist, his hotel was only a wretched little hut, the rushing waterfall which was to drive the wheels of industry in the new city was only a small rapids. The marble deposit, as they later discovered, was merely a layer of smooth limestone. The timber, however, was there, a huge forest shutting them in on every side.

For a while they felt like beating up the wily major for having lured them into such a wilderness. But he was profuse with his explanations and so lavish with his promises of big pay, and the big forest itself appealed to them so much, that they not only forgave him but decided to stay there, buy land and work for McCormick. This decided upon James Keogh went to Chicago and returned with his wife and at once took land and settled in Forestville. So also did John, Richard and Matthew Perry. John Perry after a little moved to California. A fourth brother, Samuel, also took land in Forestville in the later '50s but soon moved to Ahnapee where he became a prominent merchant and manufacturer.

Maj. Joseph McCormick had won his military title in the Mexican war. He was of ancient Scotch-Irish stock and was a big, breezy old man with a commanding presence and stentorian voice. He was the first white man to settle in Forestville. He claimed several tracts of land but made formal entry only of the north half of the northeast  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 29. This entry is dated August 1,

<sup>1</sup> Reference is made to the site of village of Forestville.

1855. He discovered what he thought was a layer of marble a mile or two up the river above the present village and seeing among other possibilities he planned to lay out a townsite about where the present village lies. Here, half way between the old and the new railroad depot was his home. However, he was unable to raise means to develop his projects and later moved to Algoma, where the daughter of his son, Mark, married Samuel Perry.<sup>2</sup>

Before this, however, he brought a great many settlers into Forestville. In his bluff, hearty way he told of the marble quarries, the water power and the timber resources so persuasively that a large number was ferried by him up the Wolf River in 1855 and 1856. Among these were John Stoneman, Andrew Sloan, N. H. Rockwell, John Machinsky, Daniel Vaughn, Peter Thompson, and L. H. D. Shepherd. A number of Germans also came in 1855 and 1856, these being Ernest, Franz, Robert and Julius Bernhardt, Samuel and Michael Krueger, John Busch and John Kumn. The four last were German Poles from the province of Posen. The Bernhardt brothers (from Silesia, in Germany) went to work in 1856 to make Major McCormick's dream of water power come true. There was at that time quite a good sized creek flowing into the river from the northeast. On this they constructed a dam making a waterfall twenty-four feet high. Below this they set up an overshot waterwheel, twenty-four feet in diameter, and here for many years a sawmill was operated. The lumber was shipped by way of the river. Later when the land was cleared the creek dried up.

Peter Thompson was the only Norwegian among these Irish and Germans. He purchased 320 acres in sections 17 and 20 July 16, 1855. In 1861 he went to the war but returned to find trouble at home. He was separated from his wife and moved away.

There were by 1857 so many settlers near the site of the present village of Forestville that steps were taken to organize the town. This was the third town to be organized in the county. Washington was the first, Otumba (the old name for Sturgeon Bay) was the second, and Forestville was the third. It included its present territory and also the town of Clay Banks. The other townships in the southern part of the county continued to be a part of Sturgeon Bay for two years more. On November 3, 1857, the town of Forestville held its first town meeting. Major McCormick was elected chairman, L. H. Shepherd, clerk, and Samuel Bacon of the present town of Clay Banks, treasurer.

All the pioneers so far mentioned lived on the east side of the river. In 1856 came the first to settle on the west side. These were the five brothers, Martin, Ferdinand, William, John and Herman Miller. These were from Pomerania, or "Hinter Pommern," in Prussia, and caused quite an immigration of people from the same part of Prussia to follow. On the west side of the river there is now a large settlement of people from Hinter Pommern. In Liberty Grove is another large settlement of Pomeranians. Between the Pomeranians on the west side of the river and the Mecklenburgers on the east side there soon developed quite a heated controversy as to where the church which they planned to build should stand.

<sup>2</sup> A good genealogical biography of Samuel Perry, with portrait, including also the ancestry of Major McCormick, is given in Commemorative Biographical Record of Brown, Kewaunee and Door Counties, pages 498-503. Mark McCormick, a son of Joseph, who was also a Forestville pioneer, became a Methodist minister.



BAY SHORE AT IDLEWILD, STURGEON BAY



Being unable to agree they finally built two churches, one on each side of the river, only a mile apart. They were both of the same shade of the Lutheran faith, but feeling resentful toward each other they had different pastors. Gradually the center of the Pomeranian settlement moved northwestward. In the eastern part of Brussels there was before the great fire of 1871 a large settlement of Bohemians. Many of these were completely exterminated in the tornado of fire, while some of the others left the sad spot never to return. After the fire the Pomeranians moved in, finding the charred foundations of the former dwellers, and here cleared the land, making a beautiful farming section. In 1908 they deserted their little brown church near Forestville and built one of the most beautiful churches on the peninsula at Kolberg, five miles northwest of Forestville.

These people came from a section in Prussia chiefly occupied by large estates. On these estates they worked as laborers, and while they were not actually slaves, their position was wretchedly humble. Girls received about \$3 per year and board, while able bodied men received as high as \$24 per year and board. The board was largely potatoes, with meat twice a week. Water or thick skim milk was their drink, with black coffee for the holidays. The day's labor in summer started at 3 o'clock in the morning. The married men received about 21 cents per day and boarded themselves. If they had a piece of land it was unlawful for them to kill a rabbit that might be nibbling their garden truck. The rabbit must be protected until the Graf and his guests at intervals galloped proudly over the small tenant's fields on a hunt. If at such a time the laborer's dog had the audacity to bark at the passing horsemen, he was shot down at once while the laborer stood by humbly, his cap in his hand.

Besides this life of toil and bondage at home, military duty was also exacted from all able bodied men between the ages of eighteen and twenty-one. During this entire time they were herded together in huge concentration camps and put through a severe drill. For this they were paid nothing at all but their frugal board. A very large number was needed each year to keep up the standing army of the kaiser. Millions of these idle men were kept cantering about on their idle horses for the glory of the emperor. Meanwhile their places on the farms were filled by women. In order to take the place of the horses taken out of useful work by the king of Prussia for his cavalry it was not an unusual thing to see two women and a dog hitched together to a plow with another woman holding the handles. So used were the people to this wretched system of oppression that they blindly slaved for the worthless nobles and cried "Hoch! der Kaiser!" every time a uniformed body of the emperor's parasites appeared in view.

Some of them, however, realized the wretched bondage in which they lived and found their way to the New World. Here was a ruler who did not enforce military slavery at the penalty of death. Here the land was not owned by arrogant nobles but the government freely presented to each man who would live on it a quarter section of land. Here all men were free and equal. These conditions, so commonplace to us, were things of wonder and delight to the German pioneer who was so unused to them. They were therefore glad to settle in the deep wilderness and toil as never before. They had the incentive of freedom, equality and the hope of prosperity. For a time many of them lived on potatoes and salt and a few dragged their cordwood to the pier on a hand-sled. But little by little their clearings widened, their stock multiplied and their hopes were bright

with the hope of independence and prosperity for their children. Now, at last, these hopes are realized.

Meanwhile quite an immigration of Germans had taken place into Nasewaupée. These Germans were from Hessen in the south central part of Germany, and here in Nasewaupée and Forestville they created one of the earliest settlements of Hessians in America. The first were George Senft, Philip A. Schaeffer, Andrew Goettelman, Peter Uhl, Ludwig Schumacher and Adam and Henry Heilman. These men came from Washington County, Wis., and there was for a time quite an emigration from this county to Door County. The following year came Fred Arldt, John Mann, Christopher Stephan and John P. and Nicholas Simon. The two last were French. All of these settled in the northern part of the town along the Little Sturgeon Bay road, which was the only road in the town at that time. A little later a number of Irish families came in and settled along the Green Bay road. Nearly all of these have later moved away.

After this initial settlement near the bay in Nasewaupée and along the Wolf River in Forestville, very few new settlers came in until the later '60s. In 1867 came John Fetzer, who later became the principal business man of Forestville and for almost a generation was chairman of the town. His father, Peter Fetzer, came from Hessen in 1850 and was one of the first settlers in Manitowoc County. John Fetzer in 1877 built a flour mill on the Wolf River which had a capacity of seventy-five barrels of flour per day. This flour mill became a great center toward which the farmers gathered from all over Southern Door County and Northern Kewaunee County. Mr. Fetzer later became state senator.

The eastern part of Forestville was not settled until 1870, when the Norwegians came and cleared the land. Their immigration is discussed in the chapter on Clay Banks. The northern part of the town and the southern part of Nasewaupée were also settled about 1870. Quite a number of Austrians settled here. The first of these were Anton Brey, Ferdinand Babler, Michael Breitle and Charles Zastrow. These came from the boundary line between Austria and Bavaria.

In the extreme northern part of Nasewaupée lies a Norwegian settlement known as Hainesville. It was so named in honor of its founder, Tallak Haines (Höen), who settled at Sawyer Harbor in 1864. He was from the parish of Bamle in the southern part of Norway and made two or three trips back to his old home, bringing many of his old neighbors back to Door County with him.

Just adjoining the old Haines homestead on Sawyer Harbor lies a government reservation of 1,000 acres. This was set aside by the government September 1, 1887, for the purpose of "providing an excellent quality of limestone in all kinds of weather." Several attempts have been made to have the reservation opened for entry but in vain.

Nasewaupée derives its name from a post office which was established there in 1856. In that year N. W. and E. S. Fuller, who for a time lived there, conceived the idea of starting an opposition village to Sturgeon Bay. The first step was to petition for the establishment of a post office, which was granted. The names suggested by the Fullers and their Hessian neighbors were not acceptable to the post office department, which instructed the postmaster at Green Bay to pick a suitable name. He selected the name of Nasewaupée, which was the name of a Menominee Indian chief who had a village a few miles west of the new post



JOHN FETZER





office, on Little Sturgeon Bay. When the town was organized in November, 1859, it received the name of the post office.

Practically all of Nasewaupee and a part of Forestville was laid waste by the great forest fire of 1871. In Nasewaupee thirty-eight families lost everything but their lives. A number of persons were also burned to death. Most of the land was still covered with timber, which was all blown down, obstructing the roads with windfalls ten feet deep. Up to this time this region had been only sparsely settled, but after the fire all the land was soon taken up by an industrious class of Germans. Among these was a Hessian by the name of Meulenbach, whose serio-comic tribulations provided amusement for the community for a long time.

Meulenbach owned an eighty-acre farm in Nasewaupee, about three miles from Bay View. He was an honest, hard-working German, having a wife and several children, whose combined labor had cleared up a considerable part of the land and placed them in comfortable circumstances. With increased prosperity came desire for a better dwelling, and in 1883 this building was erected and occupied by the family. In final settlement with the carpenter, Wm. Bade, there was a dispute about a charge of \$7. Meulenbach refused to pay it, while Mr. Bade insisted that it was justly due. Neither would recede and Bade finally left with a threat to appeal to the law. Meulenbach, who could not understand a word of English, laughed at the idea that a court would disturb him for so trifling a sum, and when cited to appear and defend a suit brought by Bade under the mechanics' lien law, Meulenbach came to town but neither employed a lawyer nor himself went near the magistrate's office. Of course, judgment was entered against him by default, the total amount being \$16.

So far from being discouraged by this result, Meulenbach was more determined than before to resist payment. He took an appeal to the circuit court, but even then he refused to employ a lawyer, having an idiotic idea that the court would somehow recognize the injustice of Bade's claim and reverse the magistrate's verdict. He did not enter the court room, but with his wife and a so-called "witness" he drank beer and roosted on the sidewalks during the day. Another verdict was entered against him for debt and costs, which now footed up to about one hundred dollars. Upon Meulenbach's refusal to pay this his property was ordered to be sold by the sheriff, which order was executed, and the claim bought by Wenzel Soukup. Mr. Soukup offered to relinquish the property to Meulenbach for the sum he had expended, but the latter refused to make any abatement of his original claim. He declared he owed nothing to Bade and would pay nothing, and there was not law enough in the state of Wisconsin to compel him to pay what he didn't owe.

When Sheriff Houle went out to serve the writ of ejectment the entire Meulenbach family struck up a sort of Indian scalp dance, whooping and howling like lunatics, in the belief that if the sheriff was unable to make himself heard the document would be void and of no effect. The owner of the claim tried to compromise the matter until he found it useless, and when Thomas Scott became sheriff he was instructed to dispossess Meulenbach. Expecting to have a dusty job he took along three assistants. He found Mrs. Meulenbach on guard with a big kettle of hot water. Her husband had secreted himself in a cedar swamp, thinking that nothing could be done in his absence. When an attempt was made to explain the situation to Mrs. Meulenbach she refused to listen and started to fill

a dipper with hot water. Tom Scott intercepted the movement and held her while his assistants rushed the plunder out of the house, during which operation Meulenbach emerged from the swamp and threatened to exterminate the sheriff's posse but changed his mind. To improve matters it began to rain, and the household goods were thoroughly soaked. The family took refuge in an adjacent barn, where they camped on the threshing floor, and in this place they remained for several months. Leaving them to get along as they might, the yet unsatisfied Meulenbach departed for Madison. He was convinced that gross injustice had been done him by the courts, and that on an appeal to the governor of the state his wrongs would be righted and the property restored to him. Having no other means of conveyance he took an ox and upon this animal he slowly journeyed toward the capital, a distance of more than two hundred miles.

It is not known what success he had in finding the governor, nor how many times the chief magistrate invited him to dine, or took a canter on the avenue on Meulenbach's steer. It is likely, however, that the governor was extremely hospitable and "set 'em up" with a perfect looseness, for when Meulenbach started to leave the capital he was so badly mixed up that instead of taking a northerly road he traveled westward and did not discover his error until he struck La Crosse, on the Mississippi River, about one hundred and fifty miles off the right road. It was six weeks after his departure when he returned to his family. He had disposed of his ox somewhere on the road, and had made much of his tramp on foot.

Meulenbach made no further effort to regain the property, although he was as obstinate in his original belief as ever. He remained in Nasewaupee a short time and then removed to Dakota, where they are no doubt still insisting that they in Door County were defrauded of everything.

The district was for a time a great wheat growing section. Large crops were harvested, but the prices were very low, often only 50 to 60 cents per bushel. In 1890 peas were worth only 42 cents per bushel, hay \$4 per ton, and milk 60 cents per hundred pounds at the cheese factories. Now the price of milk is four times as high and the price of peas ten times as high. In 1916 a farmer in this section had 800 bushels of peas to sell. He refused \$3.50 per bushel, saying he would not sell for less than \$5 per bushel. As this was an unheard-of price he was laughed at. In the spring of 1917, however, the price reached \$5. He immediately began to haul peas, but was unable to catch that price. When he got his crop to the market the price had reached \$5.50.

## CHAPTER XLIX

### CLAY BANKS AND THE NORWEGIAN SETTLEMENT

Clay Banks is the smallest town in the county, containing only about fourteen sections of land. Yet small as it is, its history may be divided into two parts—ancient and modern. Its modern history deals with the steady and quiet development of a beautiful farming district, uneventful in its prosperity. Its ancient records, however, tell of seaport villages where long piers extended far into the lake, where the hum of the sawmills and the click of the telegraph once was heard, but where now nothing breaks the silence and solitude of nature but the chirp of the crickets and the wash of the waves.

Along Clay Banks' half-dozen miles of water frontage there were at one time three hopeful villages—Foscoro, Clay Banks and Horns Pier. All of these villages were once upon a time post offices and telegraph stations. Now their very existence is forgotten except by the oldest inhabitants.

Foscoro was in the extreme southeastern corner of the town where Stony Creek rambles down among its rocks to the lake. Some time in the '60s three enterprising men came along and decided that here was a most favorable spot for the construction of a mill and a pier for shipping forest products. Their names were Foster, Coe and Rowe. They planned a village which they fondly hoped would grow and become a mighty city. In order that their village might have the benefit of a real distinctive name they combined the first syllables of their surnames into the name Fos-co-ro. Being thus happily named after three mighty men they hoped it would have a threefold happy growth.

Foscoro was so near the Kewaunee County line that it sometimes was not sure which county it belonged to. In all events, it was so far removed from the currents of life in Door County that it was little known and less visited. We are fortunate, however, in having a description of Foscoro in the fullness of its might by one who saw it in its prime. The following pretty description of Foscoro was written in 1871 and printed in the Milwaukee News of March 13, 1871.

"To the north of the village plat, about a quarter of a mile, the high bluff at the lake recedes some forty or fifty rods and diminishes to a gentle hill, which extends southeasterly about the same distance from the lake for some miles and then returns to the shore again. Within this amphitheater is in the future, the sweetest village that the waves of Lake Michigan shall kiss. The surface of the ground, from the gentle hill, descends softly to the lake, so that there can be no idle water there, and the soil is rich and easy of cultivation. Springs of chalybeate water abound on the hillside. I thought when I first saw the spot that imagination might call it the home of the fairies.

"One other feature I must tell you of. In this amphitheater comes a stream,

nearly as large as Cedar Creek in Ozaukee County, bounding along as if glad to get there, and then stops in a quiet estuary at the lake and smiles upon the scene. The Indian name of this stream I understand to be Sensippi, which I am informed means 'stream of rocks,' a name very appropriate, as its bed is filled with the freight of some former glacier.

"Such was this place when the canny hand of nature left it. But then came a Mr. Rowe of Chicago and a Mr. Coe and a Mr. Foster from Port Washington—and must it be! dug a large race for the water of the Sensippi to run in, built a large sawmill, where they are destroying those beautiful cedars and other trees, those suggestive monuments of bygone ages, and converting them into lumber, to be sent to Chicago, perhaps, that place devoid of all beauty or sense of poetry.

"Nor is this all; only a short distance from the mill, and connected with it by a wooden rail, is a pier run out into the lake 1,000 feet. How it mars the beauty of this fair nook! It is as if some beautiful girl, with a mouth to excite an irresistible desire for a kiss, should all at once run out a tongue like an ant-eater.

"Where is Foscoro? Six miles north of Ahnapec."

Now all remains of the village, the pier, the mill and the mill race have disappeared. Once more the little amphitheater looks as charming as when the writer of the above article called it the home of the fairies. Mariners on the lake, however, do not share this view. They are rather prone to believe it is the dwelling-place of imps. Just outside of Foscoro lies a shoal which has been the cause of a number of shipwrecks. The most recent is that of the Carolina of the Goodrich Line, which in the winter of 1917 stranded there and sustained an injury of about thirty thousand dollars.

Only two miles north of Foscoro is the site of the former village of Clay Banks. The grandeur of Clay Banks now survives only in the picturesque ruins of a couple of boarding houses, but in the early '70s it was quite a populous place which seriously considered the question of incorporating as a village. At that time (1874), according to the Ahnapec Record, Clay Banks was "doing more shipping than any other port in Door County." Two large piers were located here, one owned by Hitt & Davidson, the other by James Tufts, and vessels were loading daily. The chief industry which contributed to this business was Hitt & Davidson's sawmill, which in 1872 was cutting 100,000 shingles daily, besides large quantities of lumber. Clay Banks was also a telegraph station. The Hitt & Davidson pier was originally built in 1866 by Gilman & Brown of Chicago. It was the longest pier in the waters surrounding Door County, being 1,600 feet long. It was at various times damaged and repaired until finally the great storm in March, 1886, carried away the last of it.

In the northeastern corner of the town, at a place now hard to find as it is buried in swamps and sand drifts, was Horns Pier. W. H. Horn of Manitowoc located here in 1864 and built a very long pier in 1866. Two thousand cords of wood could be stored on it. In September, 1871, the pier, warehouse, store and other buildings were destroyed by a forest fire which did great damage in the town of Clay Banks. It was, however, rebuilt at once and did a very big business, shipping about two cargoes of forest products daily. It was a regular stopping place for the lake steamers that plied between Chicago and Buffalo. According to published report in the Door County Advocate in January, 1873, there was shipped

from this pier during the preceding year 100,000 cedar posts, 10,000 railroad ties, 5,000 cords of wood, 1,000 cords of hemlock bark and 5,000 telegraph poles.

Wm. H. Horn, the owner of this now forgotten energetic little business place, came from Manitowoc where he had considerable property. He was a keen man, rather too sharp in business dealings. For many year he did a very profitable business in Door County. In company with a Mr. Joseph he also built a pier a few miles north of the canal, which was a large shipping point for forest products in the '70s and '80s. The village that grew up here was called by them St. Joseph. When the people of Sturgeon Bay and the northern towns were unable to get the telegraph line extended beyond Sturgeon Bay Horn & Joseph in 1882 personally extended it from Horn's Pier to St. Joseph, Whitefish Bay, Jacksonport and Baileys Harbor, at all of which points they installed operators. When the timber cutting came to an end in the latter '80s Foscoro, Clay Banks, Horn's Pier and St. Joseph ceased to be shipping points and W. H. Horn moved to other parts.

Clay Banks was the seventh organized town in the county, being set off by the county board at the February meeting in 1859. The name, Clay Banks, is one of long standing and originated among the sailors of the lake. The entire Lake Michigan shore of the peninsula is low with the exception of the shore in Clay Banks. These high clay banks, rising almost perpendicularly to a height of almost a hundred feet, loom up very prominently and they became a sort of point to reckon distance from. These high banks are very picturesque, having a distinctive beauty not found elsewhere in the county. As yet no summer resorter has perched his bungalow upon them, but the time will no doubt come when the discriminating pleasure seekers will make their summer homes there.

Clay Banks is one of the best sections for farming that the county possesses. Here the rich clay soil goes down a hundred feet or more. While other parts of Door County are overburdened with stone, it is here at a premium. The land is gently rolling and easily tillable and raises bumper crops.

The first men to buy land for farming purposes were Wm. Helmholtz, John Mackay, C. L. Fellows and Wm. H. Warren, who all settled here in 1855. In 1856 came B. B. Coon, Albert J. Schuyler and Chauncey C. Hitt. After this there was no further settlement until after the war. Then came John Hoslett, John Madden with his sons, James, Jerry and John; Alexander Tufts, James Davidson, Captain Chauncey M. Thayer, George Roberts and James E. Spalsbury, with his sons, Richard, Wesley and William. James Spalsbury died shortly after coming here and old Mrs. Spalsbury became a sort of grandmother for the whole settlement.

These Yankees and Irish who settled in Clay Banks were an unusually wide-awake class of people and quite a number of their sons and daughters have distinguished themselves. Among these are John Madden, who became a Catholic priest; George Madden, the son of James, who is our present county superintendent; Millard Tufts, the genial principal of the Algoma Train School; Joseph Hoslett, the chairman of the county board; J. A. Spalsbury, who is a dentist in Sturgeon Bay.

The bulk of the population in Clay Banks is now of Norwegian origin. This large settlement, which lies partly in Clay Banks and partly in Forestville and continues northward almost to Sawyer, was started about 1870. A few years earlier Captain Andrew Larson, a friend of Tallak Haines, the founder of the

Hainesville settlement, had taken land in the town of Sturgeon Bay. He had lived for a time in Manitowoc County. While on a visit to Manitowoc County he told of the excellent land that was still open for homestead entry in Door County. A man by the name of Arne Knutson (Odegaarden) made a journey northward to investigate. He personally selected a farm just south of the county line in Kewaunee County and reported that there was an abundance of land equally as good as the best in Manitowoc County. This caused quite an exodus of Norwegians from Manitowoc County, where land by this time was hard to obtain. The first were another Arne Knutson, who with his four sons, now known by the name of Arneson, and Ole Eliason settled in the eastern part of Forestville in 1870. They were joined next year by Henry Jorgenson, Haldor Haldorson, G. J. Anderson, Erik Nelson, Knut E. and Nils Viste, Peder and Tosten Olson, Ole A. Nelson and Knut Gigstad. The immigration continued rapidly during the next few years. Nearly all these Norwegians are from the same part of Norway—Valders in the central part—and had lived for a short time in Manitowoc County.

By January, 1872, they were so numerous that a congregation was organized. This was the first Lutheran congregation to be organized in Door County. For a while they held meetings in various places, once holding service in Charles Hitt's saloon or adjoining dining room, the condition being imposed that "they must not spit tobacco juice on the floor." Rev. Bjorn reported this injunction to his congregation and added: "Ja, dere kan vel holde dere fra at være svin en times tid!"

A small church was built in 1874 or 1875. This was a plain one-story log house, 22x18 in size, with an attic which was used by the minister for a home. There was no stairway to get up to his humble quarters but only a rough ladder nailed against the wall in the fashion of primitive barns. For a few years this log house answered the needs of the congregation and many weddings, funerals and other services were held there. Once a bridal party assembled there with their numerous guests to witness the ceremony. The pastor was a little delayed in making his toilet up in the loft. Finally his feet appeared in the hole above, but being in haste he missed the narrow foothold on the ladder and shot down like a stone, landing in a most undignified manner at the feet of the bridal couple. For a while there was a bedlam of tittering from the assembled guests mingled with groans from the unfortunate preacher, who was industriously feeling for broken bones.

The old church is now serving the needs of a woodshed to the present parsonage.

The Norwegian Lutheran Church is the only one in the town of Clay Banks. The Seventh Day Adventists a few years later hauled a lot of stone and logs together near Salona to build a church but nothing more was done. The Catholics along the shore also planned to build a church but failed. One day they organized a bee and came back in the woods where the Norwegians lived to get out timber for a church. They brought so much beer and whiskey with them that the Norwegians wondered if they meditated on floating the logs down. However, by the time they had "taken on" the refreshments they could take on nothing more and the church project was dropped.

Clay Banks was originally covered with very heavy timber, among them being some of the largest pines cut in the state. C. L. Fellows tells of cutting a pine which was no doubt the biggest in the county. He writes: "In the winter of 1872 A. D. Eveland of Algoma and myself were engaged in getting out spars in the southeastern part of Clay Banks. We got out several measuring from 90 to 100

feet, giving a twelve to sixteen inch square masthead. We particularly wanted two spars, 104 and 108 feet long, squaring eighteen inches at the cap. We did not get either of them, but we felled one tree that would have made the 108-foot stick if it had not been broken in falling. I do not remember how large it was on the stump but recollect we could find no saw that would reach through it. We chopped more than one-fourth of the way through on each side and then used a saw. It broke ninety-two feet from the butt, spoiled about eight feet in the break and still left about fifty feet above the break. There was not a limb below the break but a large one just where it broke. I afterwards cut the tree into logs and hauled them to the Foscoro mill. There were four twelve-foot logs, one fourteen-foot log and two sixteen-foot logs below the break, the top log measuring thirty-four inches in diameter at the small end. Above the break I got two sixteen-foot logs and one fourteen, the ten logs scaling considerably over 9,000 feet. Including the eight-foot break (which I made into shingles) I estimated that the tree would scale very close to 10,000 feet. The four twelve-foot logs and the fourteen-foot being too large to saw, we split with powder and made into shingles. The tree stood on the northeast corner of the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 31."

About 1880 there were found in Clay Banks on the farm of Eugene Madosh several fragments of musket barrels and other implements and also some human bones. The muskets were of the ancient flintlock pattern and were cut in two about fifteen inches from the breech, none of the muzzle ends having been found. The Indians evidently intended to destroy the weapons as the barrels have been hammered out of shape, and some of the breech-pins are missing. It is probable that these muskets are relics of some of the early French explorers who visited Door County before the Indians became familiar with firearms. The theory has been advanced that these are the remains of those men in La Salle's expedition who in 1680 deserted the post he had in that year established on the site of the present city of Peoria, Ill. These men made their way to Lake Michigan, where they found canoes and skirted the shore northward on their way to Canada. They never returned and here in Clay Banks may have been the fatal spot where they were overpowered and killed by the Indians. The remainder of the garrison under Captain Tonti were also obliged to desert the post at Peoria and fled northward along Lake Michigan. Some of them finally reached the Jesuit chapel at the head of Green Bay, where Father Hennepin found them.



## CHAPTER L

### DOOR COUNTY'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE EUROPEAN WAR

The destructive tentacles of the great European war which have been felt in the outermost parts of the earth have also reached Door County. When war was declared by the United States against Germany steps were at once taken by patriotic men to organize a company of volunteers. Prominent in pushing the enlistment was Dr. F. C. Huff, now a captain in the Medical Reserve Corps. On August 17, 1917, the local company, known as Company F, Fifth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, departed for Camp Douglas amid the good-bys of several thousand friends who had met at the depot to bid them godspeed. When they arrived at Camp Douglas they were pleased to learn that their company was the only one in the Fifth Regiment above the war strength of 150 men. Following is the roster of the company, of which twenty-four are from Kewaunee County:

#### OFFICERS

Captain Edward S. Reynolds.

First Lieutenant Ralph Perry, Algoma.

Second Lieutenant Hanley Ihlenfeldt, Algoma.

First Sergeant Grover Stapleton.

Quartermaster Sergeant J. C. Langemak.

Mess Sergeant John Webb.

Sergeants—Milton Abell, John C. Acker, William A. Behringer, Lester W. Brann, Emery Eatough, \* Jerry J. Jerabeck, William A. Worley, \* Fred A. Zastrow.

Corporals—W. J. Bourgeois, Charles Gislason, John Gudmundson, Melvin Jenkins, Ernest Peterson, Lester J. Leidl, Frank Durkee, Walter Herzog, Frank Schuyler, John Weitemann, Querin Groessl, Bernard J. LaMere, M. E. Peterson.

#### PRIVATEs

Anderson, G. D.

Anderson, W.

Anderson, C. N.

Anderson, M. R.

Andrews, N. M.

Ahlswede, W.

Augustine, E. C.

Bathke, A. A.

Baudhuin, S. J.

Bourgeois, L. G.

Bruso, H. J.

Bridenhagen, A.

Bubnik, G. J.

Burlo, —

Bournoville, H. J.

\*Capelle, C.

Christianson, J. A.

Christianson, Ole.

Collard, H. W.

Collard, Harry.

Corbisier, V. A.

Corbisier, A.

Counard, L.

\* Culligan, J.

\* Culligan, G. F.

\* Culligan, D.

\* Cunningham, W.

\*Kewaunee County.

Daul, H.	* Koutnik, C. J.	* Prokash, F. J.
Degodt, E.	Krueger, O.	Poh, J. H.
Dewitte, J. B.	Kruk, A.	Rockwell, H.
Dejardine, H. J.	Kugler, H. J.	Rockwell, J.
* Devillers, F.	Knutson, L.	Richmond, E.
Duwe, W.	Lavassor, Don.	Sawyer, J.
Ecklund, E. D.	Lachshire, A.	Schumaker, M. R.
Eichinger, G.	Langemak, F. G.	Severson, E. G.
Ellis, Chas.	Lemeuse, E.	Skippon, S.
Erickson, H. W.	* Lidal, C. A.	Smith, E. R.
Fagg, W.	* Lidal, F. E.	Solway, J.
Felhofer, H.	Lorhey, Frank.	Stephenson, W. H.
Fellows, G. D.	Lessard, David.	Tagge, E. G.
Fellers, G.	Maples, Roy.	Taube, A. J.
Fish, L. H.	Marx, Oscar.	Torstenson, E.
Fritschler, J. C.	MacMillan, A. M.	Tweedale, E. J.
* Gerlach, W.	Meyer, Albert.	Van Dreese, M.
Gleisner, W. E.	Moeller, L. C.	Vertz, S.
Gray, Wesley.	Monquin, H.	Vertz, H. J.
Groth, W. C.	Minor, L. S.	Vertz, E.
Hartel, H.	* Mouty, G.	Vertz, A.
Haskell, R. N.	* Mouty, S. P.	Vertz, F. N.
* Haucke, E.	Mueller, P. E.	Vetting, G.
Helgeson, C. O.	Murray, D.	Walker, L. W.
Hostak, J.	Macco, J. P.	Walker, Henry.
Hovell, Frank.	Nelson, C. L., Jr.	* Wasserbach, A. H.
Jackson, V.	Norstrom, C. E.	* Wasserbach, J.
Janowsky, E.	O'Dean, H. G.	Weisner, H. F.
Jannerjahn, E.	O'Hern, D.	Weis, F. G.
Johnson, O. H.	Pallister, H. P.	Wolter, E.
Jindra, J. E.	Parkman, F.	Wood, E. B.
Jorgenson, G. E.	Pfister, F.	Zivney, W. W.
* Kashnik, Urban.	Piett, F.	* Zastrow, C. W.
Kinderman, G.	Pivonka, J. E.	* Zastrow, R. C.
* Kohlbeck, L. M.	Peterson, O.	Zettle, F. P.

In this list will be seen five by the name of Vertz. These are four brothers and a cousin, all from Egg Harbor.

The following is a list of the men who up to the present writing have been drafted and certified to the district board by the local board for army service:

Claude Wesa, Fish Creek.	August F. Eckert, Fish Creek.
William Wellever, Sturgeon Bay.	Alfred Jenquin, Sturgeon Bay.
Albert I. Ohman, Fish Creek.	Laxis P. Nelson, Ellison Bay.
John N. Ellenbecker, Sawyer.	Oscar Jorgenson, Sawyer.
Henry N. Propsom, Sturgeon Bay.	Sylvan Delfosse, Brussels.
William Reimer, Brussels.	Oscar C. Johnson, Sawyer, R. 2.

\*Kewaunee County.

George Johnson, Jacksonport.	Walter Stephan, Sturgeon Bay.
Frank Knapp, Brussels, R. 2.	Henry Ash, Sevastopol.
Wm. F. Reschke, Forestville, R. 2.	Archie Fish, Fish Creek.
Elmer F. Anderson, Ellison Bay.	Ira Gray, Sturgeon Bay.
Wm. Losli, Sawyer.	Arnold Haberlie, Sevastopol.
Wm. A. Goetsch, Sturgeon Bay, R. 2.	Otto Bechtel, Sevastopol.
Everett Long, Sturgeon Bay.	Howard Greisen, Sturgeon Bay.
Joseph Paul, Sturgeon Bay.	Chauncey Haskell, Sturgeon Bay (No affidavits filed.)
Edward C. Christianson, Fish Creek	Ernest Heling, Sister Bay.
Fred A. Schubert, Sawyer, R. 2.	Clarence W. Haen, Sturgeon Bay.
Emil Sperber, Sawyer.	Edgar M. Peterson, Sister Bay. (Occupational.)
Willard A. Anderson, Fish Creek.	Frank T. Welter, Sturgeon Bay.
Gust A. Johnson, Sister Bay.	Edward Anderson, Egg Harbor. (No affidavits filed.)
Joseph Jirtle, Clay Banks.	Anton N. Jacobs, Baileys Harbor.
And. E. Laubenstein, Nasewaupee.	Henry Holtdoerp, Forestville.
Maurice M. Johnson, Detroit Harbor.	Harry A. Churches, Fish Creek.
John A. Landin, Ellison Bay.	Jacob Seiler, Sturgeon Bay. (Did not appear.)
Hjalmar V. Nelson, Clay Banks.	William Grovogel, Jacksonport.
Harvey W. MacMillan, Sturgeon Bay.	Chas. A. Eichinger, Gardner. (Occupational.)
Engelbert Kercher, Forestville.	Frank Klaubauf, Nasewaupee.
Hubert F. Knudson, Liberty Grove.	Semo Steffof, Sevastopol. (Did not appear.)
Harry T. Johnson, Liberty Grove.	
Matthew Daubner, Ellison Bay.	
Bernard Hinz, Jacksonport.	
Elmer G. Anderson, Sister Bay.	
Stanley Voight, Baileys Harbor.	
Otto L. Bergwin, Sister Bay.	

The first man examined by the district board who did not claim any exemption and who was willing to go was Claude Wesa, the son of a former German subject in Gibraltar. He was therefore given the honor of being the first man to be sent to Camp Custer at Battle Creek, Mich., September 4, 1917.

## APPENDIX

The appended article, copied from an issue of the Advocate in 1888, is of interest as giving prices and wages paid in Sturgeon Bay before the Civil war.

The Advocate is in possession of a veritable relic of ante-bellum days. It consists of a ledger which belonged to the upper mill company's store at the time the property was owned and operated by Robert and O. P. Graham. The writing is in Hon. Joseph Harris' bold and plain style, which is so familiar to many of the people of this county.

The first entry is that of William Le Roy, dated July 25, 1857, and he is charged with 8 yards delaine at 25 cents a yard; also one cook stove at \$17.

Chris Daniels' name also figures to the extent of a page in the volume. We find him credited in December, 1857, with 10½ days' labor in mill at 50 cents per day. In January, 1858, he is credited with 2½ days' labor at the rate of \$8 per month, or 77 cents for the 2½ days. He continued to work for those wages for 24 days of that month, for which he received \$7.40 all told. In April that year his wages were raised to \$10 per month. This advance was doubtless caused by the fact that he went to rafting logs on the 17th of April, several weeks before navigation opened. We also find him charged with \$3.40 in cash, all drawn on the 8th of March, and on the 22d of August following he made another draft of \$1.24. His total earnings from the 2d of December, 1857, to the 17th of April, 1858, aggregated \$18.19, of which amount he drew \$4.60 in cash and the remainder in goods.

Jacob Crass, of Sevastopol, also figures in this ancient volume. On August 18, 1857, he is credited with 18½ days' labor at \$1.50 per day. These wages may be considered extravagant, when placed beside the miserable pittance received by Mr. Daniels, but the fact is that Mr. Crass was a master mechanic whose services were in better demand than a common laborer.

Andy Finnegan and wife, who carried on the company's boarding house at that time jointly, received \$12 per month for their services in this capacity.

Soren Peterson sold 780 railroad ties to the company in 1857, at 12 cents each, for every dollar of which he received merchandise.

The next is George Bassford, of Sevastopol, who was also an employe of the Graham Brothers during the winter of 1856-7. We find him credited with 25 days' labor during December, 1856, for which he received the extraordinary sum of \$5.70 all told. On the 2d of January, 1857, Mr. Bassford hired out for the winter at \$6 per month, and he continued working at these figures until the 27th of February following, a total of 51 days, and his credit aggregated \$11.73. What an exhibit is \$11.73 for a half-hundred days' labor! But then that was during the "good old times" of which we hear and read so much.

Sept. Stephenson, the present city marshal, was evidently one of the fortunate ones those days. We find him working at \$10 per month until his earnings had

swelled to \$39, of which amount he drew \$9.50. He is also charged "to one spoon, 25 cents, and one gallon syrup, \$1.25." Whether he ate the latter with the former or vice versa is not apparent.

A. J. Schuyler, of Clay Banks, comes next. We find him credited with several days' work in April, 1857, at 50 cents per day. He is also charged with "one bottle of hair oil, 44 cents; one neckerchief, \$1.25; two pairs of socks, 44c; one hat, \$2; one vest, \$5; one pair of pantaloons, \$5; 1/2 pound of salts, 18 cents." We can account for everything in the foregoing except the last named article. What a person wanted with that infernal stuff after he had bought a hat, vest, pantaloons, and two pairs of stockings, all within a month, is past finding out.

On June 23, 1857, H. C. Knutson sold 247 railroad ties for \$30.93 and took in exchange therefor one cook stove and several other necessary articles of household goods.

We find that Nic. Simon received \$2.25 in December, 1857, for three days' labor in helping to unload a vessel, and for three days' work in the woods, 76 cents. He also received \$10 per month during a part of the winter at the same labor. November 27th he invested in an overcoat for \$10.

J. P. Simon, of Nasewaupee, was also one of the elect, inasmuch as he is credited with \$31.75 for 19 1/2 days' work during September. This does not include board.

In November, 1857, we find that E. C. Daniels had been working in the mill for 12 1/2 days, for which he is credited \$7.59—75 cents per day. During the following three months he worked 79 days in the pinery which was then located in the rear of Bayside Cemetery. For this work he received \$33.43 and of this only \$2 in cash.

In April, 1858, Anton Thompson sold the firm 74,147 feet of saw logs, at the rate of \$1.50 per 1,000, which aggregated \$113.20. Just think of it, lumbermen, \$1.50 per 1,000 feet of pine logs! During the same winter L. R. McLachlan also put in logs for which he received \$1.50 per 1,000 from the same firm.

May, 1858, John Walker sold 13,000 staves at \$4.50 per 1,000—\$58.50; also 4 1/2 cords shingle bolts at \$3.50 per cord. Mr. Walker was formerly a resident of Nasewaupee, where he was accidentally killed while working in the woods sometime in 1859. He was the father of Charles Walker of Sevastopol.

Nic Ambrust, of Sevastopol, for work of self and oxen, 6 days at 69 cents per day, \$2.54. This credit we find during January, 1857. We also find Henry Martin, of the same town, credited with \$7.52, for 22 days' labor performed in January, 1858. This was at the rate of \$9 per month. During the time which Mr. Martin worked, which extended over a period of four months, he drew a total of 50 cents in cash. His earnings during that time aggregated \$13.08.

Joseph Hebert, then head sawyer in the mill, received \$1.31 per day and boarded himself during a part of the sawing season of 1858.

Edward Nelson, of this village, sold 1,900 shingles in November, 1858, at \$1.25 per 1,000. N. Bassnerette also sold a lot of shingles to the same party the season before that at the rate of \$1.00 per 1,000.

In July, 1858, W. H. Warren sold 21,848 feet of new logs at \$2.25 per 1,000 and 19,509 feet of old logs at \$1.25 per 1,000, which transaction doubtless constituted nearly a winter's work those days, aggregating \$73.58.

We might enumerate many other individuals, but no further evidence is needed to convince the present generation of the vast difference between the times now

and those of twenty-five and more years ago, as experienced by the early pioneers. It is claimed by some that prices of the necessities of life were commensurate with the wages paid in those days. This is a great mistake, as far as this place is concerned, as will be observed by the following prices of staple articles, which is taken from the same book: Flour, \$6.00 and \$7.00 per barrel; corn meal, 2 cents per pound; salt pork, 14 cents; beef, 8 cents; butter, 25 cents; lard, 17 cents; syrup at \$1.00 and \$1.25; coffee, 18 cents; tea, 75 cents; soap, 12 cents; candles, 25 cents; lard oil, \$1.13; sugar, brown, 16 cents; vinegar, 24 cents; dried apples, 14 cents; potatoes—scarce—50 cents and \$2.05 per bushel; hay, \$10; corn, 63 cents; beans, \$1.25; oats, 37 cents; calico, 13 cents per yard; delaine, 28 cents; pair boots, \$3.50, and everything else in proportion.

Let our readers compare these figures with those now current and they will see that there is considerable difference in favor of the present prices. It will be a puzzle to many how the people lived in those days, but live they did, as has been demonstrated in the case of the parties referred to above.

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HISTORY OF  
**DOOR COUNTY**  
WISCONSIN

THE COUNTY BEAUTIFUL

ILLUSTRATED

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VOLUME II

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CHICAGO  
THE S. J. CLARKE PUBLISHING COMPANY  
1917



JOSEPH HARRIS, SR.



# BIOGRAPHICAL

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## JOSEPH HARRIS, SR.

Inseparably interwoven with the history of Sturgeon Bay and of Door county is the name of Joseph Harris, Sr., who passed away in January, 1889, but whose memory is yet enshrined in the hearts of those who knew him because of the prominent part which he took in the upbuilding of this section of the country and his active aid of all projects and measures for the general good. He was born in London, England, in 1813 and was about thirty-six years of age when he bade adieu to friends and native land and sailed for America, arriving in New York in 1849. In 1855 he came to Door county, locating at what is now Sturgeon Bay, his first home being an old log building known as the Haskell house. He turned his attention to the real estate business, in which he continued for many years, and his activities constituted an element in promoting the upbuilding and development of this section.

Mr. Harris deserves more than passing notice, as he was one of the organizers of the town of Otumba, now Sturgeon Bay. In company with Henry Schuyler he traveled on foot to Fish Creek, there being no trail north of Sturgeon Bay at the time. The following day the first meeting of the board of county supervisors of Door county was held and Mr. Harris was elected the first secretary of the board and otherwise took an important part in the initial steps which promoted the organization of the county. He and Squire Schuyler then started back by sail boat and were overtaken by a severe storm. The boat was driven across the bay and when it became daylight they discovered that they were at Flat Rock near Escanaba, Michigan. The deck of the boat was covered with ice and snow. In his public activities he ever looked beyond the exigencies of the moment to the needs, the demands and the opportunities of the future. He was chosen first county clerk and register of deeds of Door county and later held the office of county treasurer for a period of six years. In 1864 he was chosen to represent a district comprising three counties in the state senate and was a member of the upper house of the Wisconsin general assembly for two years during that most momentous period in the nation's history. He gave most thoughtful consideration to all the important questions which came up for decision and his aid and influence were always on the side of advancement and improvement. While a member of the senate he framed up the legislation in behalf of the Sturgeon Bay & Lake Michigan Ship Canal & Harbor Company and in 1866 went to Washington, where he procured a grant of two hundred thousand acres of land to assist in the building of the canal. He worked, however, upon the project for twenty-two years before he saw its fulfillment. For twelve years he

acted as private secretary in Washington to Senator Sawyer, who was from this district, and throughout the entire period Mr. Harris put forth every possible effort in behalf of the canal, which was finally completed in 1881. It was built by private enterprise but was eventually purchased by the government. His labors in this connection were stupendous but were at length crowned with success and he well deserves to be known as the father of the Sturgeon Bay & Lake Michigan Ship Canal. There were many other phases of his activity which proved of the greatest possible public worth and his efforts were ever actuated by a most unselfish devotion to the general good. Along still other lines he left the impress of his individuality and became a leader of public thought and action. In 1861 he began the publication of the Door County Advocate in connection with Myron H. McCord and for some time was editor of that paper, of which his sons, Joseph and Harry, afterward became proprietors, conducting it for many years but eventually selling it. His political endorsement was ever given to the republican party from the time of its organization and he never hesitated to express his honest opinions concerning political questions or any of the vital problems concerning city, state or nation. When Sturgeon Bay and southern Door county were swept by fire in 1871 he aided largely in assisting the citizens in again making a start in business. Both necessity and opportunity were to him a call to action and to the call he never failed to make immediate response.

In 1833, when a young man of twenty years, Joseph Harris was united in marriage to Miss Charlotte Singleton, of London, England, and they became the parents of five children: Joseph, now deceased; Harry, a resident of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and Charlotte, Elizabeth and Edith, all of whom have passed away. Having lost his first wife, Joseph Harris was married in 1859 to Miss Susan Perkins, of New York, and they became the parents of five children: Grace, who married Frank Smith and resides in Washington, D. C.; Arthur T., of Sturgeon Bay; Washington, deceased; and Dewey and Mabel, both of whom died in infancy. The two sons of the first marriage, Joseph and Harry, were both veterans of the Civil war. The former rose to the rank of captain and on one occasion was wounded in battle. He was a boat builder by trade and eventually became light keeper at Baileys Harbor, at Green Island, at Dunlap Reef and later at Evanston, Illinois. After he left the lighthouse service he and his son Edward established the Republican, a weekly newspaper at Sturgeon Bay, which they conducted for a few years. For one term he filled the office of postmaster, for one term was also mayor of the city and for some time occupied the office of justice of the peace, discharging his duties with marked capability and fidelity in these different connections. He was likewise honored with election to the office of commander of Henry Schuyler Post, G. A. R., and he ever enjoyed the fullest confidence and the warmest regard of his old army comrades with whom he had followed the stars and stripes on the battlefields of the south. He married Rosanna Rice and they became the parents of four children: Edward, who now resides in Milwaukee; Mrs. Lottie Pfeifer, residing in Sturgeon Bay; and Mabel and Raymond, deceased.

Harry Harris wedded Elizabeth Hanson in 1868 and they have become the parents of two daughters, Edith and Bessie. In early life Harry Harris learned the printer's trade and afterward purchased the Marinette Eagle, which he conducted for a time. Later he removed to Delaware, where he was engaged in

the newspaper business, and he is now in Philadelphia, where he is associated with the publication known as the Practical Farmer. The sons, "to the manner born," early became connected with newspaper interests and have continued active along that line during the greater part of their lives.

The daughter, Elizabeth Harris, now deceased, became the wife of Jesse Birmingham in 1860 and they resided at West Pensaukee, Oconto county, Wisconsin. It was Mr. Birmingham who brought the first team of horses to Door county in the '50s and he aided in cutting the timber where Sturgeon Bay now stands. He also carried the mail between Sturgeon Bay and Green Bay and later removed to Oconto county, where he engaged in lumbering and farming.

Charlotte Harris, in 1860, became the wife of David McIntosh, who was one of the early settlers of Door county, and they removed to Englewood, then a suburb but now a part of Chicago, where she passed away in 1915.

Edith Harris was married in 1871 to Isaac C. Slater and they resided at Washington, D. C., but she has now departed this life.

Arthur T. Harris, of this family, was born in Sturgeon Bay in 1867 and was a youth of seventeen years when he first became connected with the Door County Advocate, with which he was associated for eighteen and one-half years. He then spent a few months in other connections but returned and has since been identified with the Door County Democrat. He is today secretary and treasurer of the Door County Publishing Company. He married Harriett Higgins and they have become parents of two children, Dorothy and Sumner. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and is an active worker and loyal supporter of the Congregational church, in which he has served as trustee, as deacon and as secretary of the Sunday school. His political endorsement has always been unfalteringly given to the republican party but the honors and emoluments of office have had no attraction for him. He is much interested in boating and when leisure affords indulges his taste in that direction. Through the columns of his paper and individually he has continued the work instituted by his father for the benefit of city and county and has been a cooperant factor along many lines which have led to the later upbuilding and progress of this section of the state.

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#### BERT CARMODY.

On the roster of public officials in Door county appears the name of Bert Carmody who is filling the office of register of deeds and in this position is making an excellent record for capable and faithful service. He had previously been well known as a substantial business man and his fellow citizens, recognizing his worth, called him to public office. He was born in Egg Harbor, February 6, 1882, a son of Dennis and Mary (Hanarahan) Carmody, who were natives of Ohio and Wisconsin respectively. The father came to Wisconsin with his parents when but two years of age. He took up the occupation of farming, purchasing land near Egg Harbor, which he improved and cultivated until 1908. He then retired from active business life and removed to Sturgeon Bay, where he has since resided, enjoying

the fruits of his former toil. In 1908, he was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who passed away on the 12th of March of that year.

Bert Carmody was reared and educated in Door county and remained with his parents until he attained his majority. He then entered the employ of the Reynolds Preserving Company and remained with them for eleven years, during which time he made all contracts for the products which were canned. In September, 1916, he was elected to the office of register of deeds, in which capacity he is now capably serving.

On the 31st of December, 1907, Mr. Carmody was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Scholl, and they have one son, Raymond, born August 28, 1909. The parents are members of the Catholic church and Mr. Carmody belongs to the Catholic Order of Foresters and also to the Mystic Workers. His political allegiance has always been given to the republican party and in matters of citizenship he stands for progress and improvement.

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#### HERBERT L. PETERSON

Herbert L. Peterson, banker, merchant and prominent business man, connected with various important commercial and financial interests of Sturgeon Bay, was born on the 16th of May, 1876, in the city where he still resides, his parents being Peter and Mary (Mathews) Peterson. The father was born in Norway and was a son of Andrew Peterson, a native of Stavanger, Norway, whence he came to the United States with his family about 1842, establishing his home in the Empire state. There he resided until the early '50s, when he removed to Door county, Wisconsin, and became a resident of Sturgeon Bay. Here he engaged in business both as a farmer and ship carpenter. His son, Peter Peterson, was but a young lad when the family home was established here, so that he was reared amid the scenes and environments of pioneer life. Following the outbreak of the Civil war in 1861, he responded to the country's call for troops, becoming a member of Company H, Twelfth Wisconsin Infantry. He was wounded near Atlanta, Georgia, in 1863 and was sent home to die. He lived, however, but was a cripple throughout his remaining days. His death occurred in March, 1907, but his widow, who was born in De Pere, Wisconsin, still survives. Peter Peterson had always followed the occupation of farming and thus provided for the support of his family. He gave his political allegiance to the republican party and he maintained pleasant relations with his old army comrades through his membership in the Grand Army of the Republic. He also belonged to the Moravian church, of which Mrs. Peterson is still a member. She is a daughter of Martin Mathews, one of the pioneer settlers of Green Bay, Wisconsin. He was a native of Ireland and at the time of the Civil war joined the army and gave his life in defense of the Union.

Herbert L. Peterson was the fourth in order of birth in a family of twelve children. He acquired a public school education and started out in business life as clerk in a general store at Sturgeon Bay, a part of his duty being the driving of a delivery wagon. He thus began his initial experience along commercial lines and, prompted by a laudable ambition, he saved his earnings until his industry

and economy had brought him sufficient capital to enable him to engage in business on his own account. About 1899 he opened a general store in Sawyer as one of the partners in the firm of E. N. Anderson & Company. Later he conducted business under his own name and afterward admitted Joseph Hoslett to a partnership, the firm being now Peterson & Hoslett. They still conduct a general merchandise establishment and the business has long since become a profitable one. Mr. Peterson entered the banking business in March, 1902, when the Bank of Sawyer was organized, of which he became vice president, and the following year he took active charge as cashier. In 1914 this bank was reorganized and removed to Sturgeon Bay, at which time the name was changed to the Door County State Bank, Mr. Peterson at that time assuming the presidency. This is now one of the leading and progressive financial institutions of the county, capitalized for fifty thousand dollars. About 1907 Mr. Peterson also became vice president of the Sturgeon Bay Stone Quarry and in 1911 was elected to the presidency. He is interested in several other important business enterprises of the county and is a contributing factor to the material progress and development of this section of the state.

On the 8th of September, 1904, Mr. Peterson was united in marriage to Miss Martha I. Speigelberg, a daughter of Emil and Mary Speigelberg, the former a druggist, now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson have become the parents of two children: Blanche, twelve years of age; and Herbert L., who is but a year old.

Fraternally Mr. Peterson is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In politics he is a republican and for six years has served as chairman of the republican county central committee, taking an active interest in promoting the growth and ensuring the success of his party. He was also elected presidential elector in Wisconsin in 1908 when William Howard Taft was elected president. For six years he has lived on his farm near Sturgeon Bay, where he has an orchard of sixty-five acres. His has been an active and useful life, fraught with good results and crowned with successful accomplishment. Moreover, he belongs to that class of representative citizens, who while promoting individual interests contribute also to the general prosperity, welfare and upbuilding.

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### JOSEPH KERSCHER

Joseph Kerscher, who follows farming in Forestville township, is a representative of one of the pioneer families of Door county. This district was still largely wild and undeveloped when the family home was established within its borders and for a long period they shared in the hardships and privations of frontier life but came to enjoy the benefits of intelligently directed labor. Joseph Kerscher was born in Manitowoc, Wisconsin, on the 22d of March, 1868, and is a son of Anton and Mary (Brectel) Kerscher, who were natives of Germany. There they were reared and married. On coming to the United States they settled in Manitowoc, Wisconsin, where the father followed farming. He afterward removed to Forestville township, Door county, and purchased eighty acres of land which he converted into productive fields, devoting his attention to general farm-

ing until his death. He was a democrat in his political views and both he and his wife were members of the Catholic church. She, too, has passed away.

Joseph Kerscher spent his boyhood in Manitowoc and in Forestville township, Door county, remaining with his father upon the home farm and gaining broad experience in every phase of agricultural life. At length he was married and purchased his present farm in 1893. He has since resided thereon, concentrating his efforts and attention upon its further development, and has made it one of the well improved properties in the neighborhood.

On October 19, 1892, Mr. Kerscher was married to Miss Katie Immel, a daughter of James and Katie (Hoover) Immel, who were natives of Germany and became early settlers of Door county, crossing the Atlantic in 1877. They settled in this county and in 1903 took up their abode in Forestville. The father has passed away but the mother is still living at the age of seventy-four years. Mrs. Kerscher was born in Algoma, Wisconsin, and by her marriage has become the mother of seven children: Leopold, Engelbert, Clement, Irene, Henry, Gabriel and Cecelia.

In his political views Mr. Kerscher is a democrat but has never been an office seeker, preferring to concentrate his energies and attention upon his farm, which comprises one hundred and forty acres of productive land. He is a man of diligence and determination and his energy is bringing him success. His memory compasses the period when this country was wild and unsettled. His parents had to clear the land in order to plant crops. There was much wild game in the district and Indians were frequently seen, showing that the seeds of civilization had scarcely been planted on the western frontier. Mr. Kerscher has lived to witness remarkable changes and has borne his part in the agricultural development of the district.

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#### ISIDOR BRANDEIS.

Isidor Brandeis, actively engaged in the grain and elevator business in Sturgeon Bay, comes to the new world from Austria, his birth having occurred on the 1st of October, 1860, in Prague, Bohemia. He is a son of Sigmund and Eva Brandeis and remained under the parental roof until he reached the age of seventeen years, when in 1877 he crossed the Atlantic to the new world, establishing his home in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Two years later he was joined by his mother. He continued to reside in Milwaukee until 1893, when he disposed of the mercantile business which he had been conducting and then came to Sturgeon Bay. Here he entered into partnership with M. Teweles in the grain, seed and elevator business. They began business in a small way, but Mr. Brandeis has gradually developed and increased his interests and is now part owner of two large elevators and is conducting a wholesale grain trade. They have also enlarged their warehouse and are owners of ten acres of land and several lots in the third ward of the city. They also built and own the docks that are leased by the Sawyer Lumber Company. This is the bare outline of his business career, but those who reflect for a moment upon the record will recognize the fact that to have accomplished what he has done, building a business of such extensive pro-

portions, must have taken the closest application, the keenest sagacity and the most unfaltering enterprise. He has thoroughly studied everything in regard to the grain trade, the crops, the buying, the sales and the shipment, and by his earnest efforts he has won a position among the leading grain merchants of this section of the state.

On the 20th of June, 1888, Mr. Brandeis was married to Miss Fanny Teweles, a daughter of Mr. Teweles of Sturgeon Bay, and they have become the parents of six children. Nana, the oldest, born March 20, 1890, completed a high school course and for four years was a student in the Milwaukee Normal School. She is now the wife of Harry Newman, a commercial salesman of Milwaukee. Irma, the second of the family, was born May 28, 1896. Sigmund died in infancy and a baby boy died at five days, both being buried in Dayside. Lucille, born in April, 1900, is attending high school. Stanley, born in August 1904, completes the family.

Mr. Brandeis holds membership with the Masons, the Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen and is loyal to the teachings and purposes of these organizations. He is the president of the Twenty Club and a member of the Commercial Club. In politics he is a republican and has taken a very active and helpful interest in public affairs. He served for one year as alderman and for the past eight years has been police commissioner. Several times he was county chairman of the republican central committee. He and Mr. Long were the first to suggest the establishment of a public library. It required five years for them to create public sentiment resulting in the council endorsing and providing for the movement. He circulated the petition for the lot and fought the idea of receiving tainted money for the institution. He is thoroughly American in spirit and in interests and has been a most effective and earnest worker for the upbuilding of his city and the advance of its material and moral progress, standing at all times for those interests and activities which are matters of civic virtue and of civic pride. He never has had occasion to wish that he had remained in his native land, for he found here the opportunities which he sought, readily recognizing and utilizing the chances for advancement and making payment for the advantages here received in capable and efficient service for the public welfare.

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### JOHN F. BERTSCHINGER

John F. Bertschinger, who engaged in business in Egg Harbor as a dealer in grain, potatoes and produce, in lumber, shingles and cement, came to Door county in 1904. He is a native of Switzerland, his birth having occurred in the land of the Alps, November 21, 1875. His parents were John and Bertha (Hoefer) Bertschinger, who were also natives of that country, whence they came to the new world in 1884. The father had followed the occupation of farming in Switzerland and in the new world he took up his abode in Milwaukee county, Wisconsin, where he managed a large herd of cattle. Later he was actively engaged in farming on his own account, successfully tilling his fields for many years, but at the present time he is living retired from active business, he and his wife being now residents of Port Washington, Wisconsin.

John F. Bertschinger spent the first nine years of his life in his native land and then accompanied his parents to the United States, remaining under the parental roof until he attained his majority, at which time he began learning the molder's trade, which he followed for eight years, residing in Milwaukee during that period. In 1904 he came to Door county, settling in Egg Harbor, where for eight years he conducted a hotel and during that period he was engaged in buying produce and handling real estate. He afterward extended the scope of his commercial activities to include the sale of lumber and building materials. He likewise built a dock and is engaged in the transportation business. His boat carries about sixty tons and is used most largely in hauling his own goods. He has built up a substantial trade in grain, hay, potatoes and other produce and also in the sale of lumber, shingles and cement. He built the Harbor Inn which he sold in 1912. He owns two farms, one of one hundred and twenty acres and the other eighty acres, and he also owns one hundred acres of shore property, which is summer resort property. On his eighty acre farm he has an orchard of thirty acres, while the remainder is cultivated in the production of grain. He employs someone to operate this farm and rents the other place. Both are well improved and in addition to cultivating his fields he raises thoroughbred Holstein cattle and also deals in horses. He is also engaged in the operation of a planing mill and his business interests extend all along the shore even to Washington island.

On the 13th of May, 1899, Mr. Bertschinger was married to Miss Anna Guenther, and to them have been born three children: Arthur, who is seventeen years of age; Wilbert, age fifteen years; and Clara, a maid of twelve years. The parents are members of the Union church and in politics Mr. Bertschinger is a stalwart republican who does everything in his power to promote the growth and insure the success of his party. He was town chairman in 1912 and he is the present justice of the peace at Egg Harbor. He was also instrumental in locating the state park here, and he has done everything possible to advance the interest and promote the upbuilding of the district in which he resides. His labors have been far-reaching and effective in advancement of the public good, while in the management of his private business interests he has displayed rare judgment and sound discernment which have brought him very substantial success.

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#### JOHN LEITNER.

John Leitner, a farmer residing on section 27, Nasewaupee township, has remained within the borders of Door county throughout practically his entire life, being but nine years of age when brought here by his father. His birth occurred in Manitowoc county, Wisconsin, on the 1st of June, 1872, his parents being Fred and Katrina Leitner, natives of Germany. In 1865, when thirty years of age, the father crossed the Atlantic to the United States and took up his abode in Manitowoc county, Wisconsin, where he cultivated a farm of forty acres for some years. He then came to Door county and purchased a farm of eighty acres, to which he later added forty acres. The period of his residence in this county covers more than four decades and he is well known and highly esteemed as one of its venerable citizens, being now eighty-two years of age. To him and his



wife were born eleven children, as follows: John, of this review; Dora, who is the wife of J. G. Krechma, of Wisconsin; Tressie, who is deceased and lies buried at Maplewood; Victoria, who gave her hand in marriage to William Birdsall, of Sawyer; Kate, the wife of William Bohne, of Algoma, Wisconsin; Lucy, who is the wife of H. E. Thompson, of Chicago; Matt, a resident of Birchwood, Wisconsin; Fred, living in Los Angeles; Frank, who died in childhood; Mary, the wife of Fred Pike, of Chicago; and William, who resides in Chicago.

John Leitner was but nine years of age when his parents established their home in Door county and here he acquired his education. He was reared to farm life and has devoted his attention and energies to agricultural pursuits to the present time, now cultivating one hundred and twenty acres of rich and arable land on section 27, Nasewaupee township. His place presents a neat and thrifty appearance and success is attending his well directed labors.

On the 2d of June, 1903, Mr. Leitner was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary Schons, of Nasewaupee township, by whom he has six children, namely: Miranda, Anna, Laurence, Viola, John, Jr., and Lester.

Politically Mr. Leitner is a democrat and for one year he held the office of pathmaster. He belongs to the Catholic church at Maplewood and is a member of the Knights of Columbus. He is widely known in the community where nearly his entire life has been spent and the circle of his friends is almost coextensive with the circle of his acquaintance.

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#### DUDLEY S. LONG.

Dudley S. Long, who since his entrance into business life has been connected with the Sturgeon Bay Advocate and is proprietor of the leading garage and automobile business in Sturgeon Bay, was born September 12, 1879, in the city which is still his home, his parents being Frank and Agnes M. (Damkoehler) Long. He completed his public school education by graduation from the high school with the class of 1896 and later pursued a course in a business college. He then entered the office of the Sturgeon Bay Advocate, of which his father was owner, and thoroughly mastered every phase of the business, working his way upward through merit and ability to positions of responsibility. For ten years he was editor of the paper, but at the present writing is largely concentrating his efforts and attention upon the automobile business. In the fall of 1915 he embarked in this line and is today the owner of the largest garage in the city in partnership with William F. Hecht, their interests being conducted under the name of The Peninsula Company. They handle Studebaker cars and they have a large repair department as well as the department in which they handle automobile accessories and supplies. They have developed the business to extensive proportions, making it one of the profitable enterprises of the city. At the same time Mr. Long still owns the Advocate and gives much thought and attention to the capable conduct of the paper. Through its columns he has advocated and promoted the dairy interests of this section, disseminating knowledge of great benefit to the dairymen in the conduct of their business.

On the 5th of December, 1902, Mr. Long was married to Miss Stella J. Anger, a daughter of Captain William and Anna (Killoran) Anger. The latter was born at Little Sturgeon, Wisconsin, and was a daughter of Luke Killoran, one of the earliest of the pioneers of this part of the state. Captain Anger came from England at an early day and was captain of lake vessels. He was also superintendent of the Two Rivers Manufacturing Company for many years and was thus closely associated with the business development of the state. Mr. and Mrs. Long have become the parents of one child, William Dean.

Mrs. Long attends the Congregational church and Mr. Long holds membership with the Knights of Pythias and with the Mystic Workers. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and he keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day but without desire for political office. He is well known in the city where he has spent his entire life and his business enterprise has carried him into important relations, the spirit of progress actuating him at all times and at every point in his career.

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#### HENRY FETZER.

Henry Fetzer, president of the Bank of Sturgeon Bay, was born in Forestville, Wisconsin, September 29, 1870. His connection with the institution of which he is the head dates from 1891 and, advancing through intermediate positions through a period of sixteen years, he was called to the presidency in 1907. The bank is one of the strong financial institutions of Door county, its total resources amounting to a million dollars. Mr. Fetzer is married and has one child, Gretna.

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#### ALLEN HIGGINS.

For more than a half century Allen Higgins, who died in April, 1917, had made his home within the borders of Door county and for an equally long period he and his wife had traveled life's journey together. His first visit to the county was made in 1856, when he made a trip to Washington island. Moreover, Wisconsin claims him as a native son, for his birth occurred at Bristol, Racine county, on the 20th of May, 1839, his parents being William R. and Cynthia D. (Case) Higgins, who were natives of Connecticut and New York respectively. The former was a son of Fitch A. Higgins, a veteran of the War of 1812, while the latter was a daughter of Grove Case, who became a resident of Illinois in early pioneer times. The Higgins family was founded in Wisconsin by Fitch A. Higgins, who in the early '30s took up his abode in Racine county, near Kenosha, where he followed the occupation of farming. It was in that county that William R. Higgins and Cynthia D. Case were married. William R. Higgins was the first white man to settle in Bristol township, Racine county, now Kenosha county, where he took up government land. During the period of Allen Higgins' boyhood Indians were far more numerous than the white settlers in that section of the state and it



ALLEN HIGGINS



seemed that the work of development and progress had scarcely been begun, but the family took an active part in promoting the work of civilization in that district.

No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of life for Allen Higgins during the period of his boyhood and youth but in August, 1862, when he was about twenty-three years of age, he responded to the country's call for troops and joined the Union army as a member of Company H, Thirty-third Regiment of Wisconsin Infantry. He was with his company in all of the battles and campaigns in which it participated and proved his loyalty on many a hotly contested field. Promotion came to him from time to time. He was first made sergeant, later became orderly sergeant and in September, 1864, was made sergeant major of his regiment. He took part in engagements in Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, Missouri and Alabama, and after participating in twenty-two battles, sieges and skirmishes he was mustered out at Vicksburg in August, 1865, and was honorably discharged at Madison the following month.

It was on the 3d of October, 1865, that Allen Higgins was united in marriage to Miss Rosanna M. Farnsworth, who was born in Washington, New Hampshire, September 5, 1844, and was brought to Wisconsin in 1851, when her parents settled in Kenosha county. The young couple, together with William R. Higgins, removed from Kenosha county to Baileys Harbor, where father and son built a pier and steamboat dock and became agents for the Goodrich Transportation Company. They got out wood, ties and lumber and developed a good business. Allen Higgins also cleared a farm. The pier, which was called Higgins Pier, was destroyed by a storm in 1880. After the father's death, which occurred in the early '70s, Allen Higgins had conducted the business alone. From time to time he was called upon for public service and held various town offices and was chairman of the town board when appointed to the office of clerk of the court by Judge Meyers of the tenth judicial district. He then removed with his family to Sturgeon Bay and acted in that capacity for thirty-one years, beginning on the 1st of October, 1881. He was elected at each election following his first appointment and made a most splendid record in office. No higher testimonial of capability and faithful service could be given than the fact that he was retained in the position for thirty-one years. In 1912, however, he declined to become a candidate for reelection, for he had passed beyond the allotted age of man of three score years and ten and he felt that the duties should be assumed by one of younger years. He was then the oldest clerk of the court in Wisconsin both in point of age and in years of continuous service. Moreover, he enjoyed the distinction of being the best informed clerk in the state on naturalization laws. He became known as the "father of the courthouse" and the younger generation that came into active service there was continually seeking his advice. He was held in the highest esteem, being honored and respected for his personal worth as well as his marked official ability. Upon his retirement those who were his associates in the courthouse manifested their high appreciation of his worth by tendering him a banquet, at which forty-three guests were present, including members of the county board, county officers, members of the Door county bar, representatives of the press and prominent citizens.

Mr. and Mrs. Higgins became the parents of a son and daughter: Dr. Allen F. Higgins, now residing in Tampa, Florida, with whom they occasionally spend

the winters; and Mrs. Arthur T. Harris, of Sturgeon Bay. This worthy couple celebrated their golden wedding on the 2d of October, 1915, after enjoying fifty years of happiness and health together. They had met together the hardships and privations of pioneer life, for this was a frontier district when in 1865 they removed to Door county. Mr. Higgins had previously visited the county in 1856, when he went to Washington island to get a stock of evergreens for a nursery. He returned about a decade later and thereafter made his home here until his death, April 2, 1917. He was held in the highest esteem and the circle of his friends was almost coextensive with the circle of his acquaintance. The official career of few residents of Door county perhaps has extended over so long a period and none has been more faultless in honor, fearless in conduct or stainless in reputation. In his passing Door county lost not only a worthy pioneer, but a man who was honored and respected by all who knew him.

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#### LOUIS RUBENS.

Louis Rubens, who is engaged in the hotel and liquor business and is also conducting a general store in Lincoln township, Kewaunee county, has been a life long resident of this section of the state. He was born in Kewaunee, December 27, 1867, a son of Charles and Antoinette (Romdenne) Rubens. The father was born at Pietrebais, in the province of Brabant, Belgium, in 1827 and came to the United States in 1856 with his wife, who was born in the same locality in 1824. They were married in Belgium, March 19, 1849, and on coming to the new world settled at Robinsonville, Brown county, Wisconsin, where the father took up land and began the development of a farm. After a short time, however, he removed to Kewaunee county, where he followed the trade of shoemaking, which he had previously learned in his native land. He was thus engaged until 1871 when he purchased a saloon at Rosiere, Wisconsin, but the same year his establishment was destroyed by fire. He then purchased a farm of forty acres which he improved and upon which his son Louis is now residing. The father erected log buildings on that place—a store, a saloon and a log house, and later replaced these with others of more modern construction. He continued to spend his remaining days upon that place, passing away July 3, 1902, while his wife survived for a decade and died on the 16th of August, 1912.

Louis Rubens spent his boyhood on the old homestead farm, pursued his education in the district schools and then entered into business with his father. At the latter's death he and his brother Antone took charge of the business and some time later, or in the spring of 1904, he purchased his brother's interest and began to improve the place. He erected new buildings, including the finest dance hall in northern Wisconsin. In addition he has a general store and a saloon, which he conducts and is in every way a progressive, alert and enterprising business man who perhaps has done more than any other man of the locality to further business progress and development in this section. His buildings are all of brick and prove substantial and attractive features of the landscape.

In 1901 Mr. Rubens was united in marriage to Miss Louise DeKeyser, a daughter of Joseph and Matilda (Patrice) DeKeyser, who were natives of

Belgium, while Mrs. Rubens was born in Brussels, Wisconsin. By her marriage she has become the mother of five children: Elmer, Libby, Laura, Harry and Emma. In the community in which his entire life has been passed Mr. Rubens is widely known. He has led the life of an active, energetic business man, giving his entire attention to his business and his close application and unremitting industry constitute the basis of his success.

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#### HON. NATHANIEL C. GARLAND.

Hon. Nathaniel C. Garland, serving for the second term as mayor of Sturgeon Bay, was reelected as an endorsement of his efficient administration during his first term and in managing municipal interests is bringing to bear the same spirit of enterprise, keen sagacity and sound judgment which has characterized the conduct of his private business affairs.

Sturgeon Bay claims him as a native son. He was born January 22, 1868, his parents being John and Elizabeth (Crowel) Garland. The father was born in Devonshire, England, May 21, 1825, and in early life was a sea captain. In 1850 he wedded Elizabeth Crowel, whose birth occurred in St. John, New Brunswick, February 9, 1833. In 1853 he brought his family to Sturgeon Bay and here turned his attention to the land and real estate business. His prominence and his capability led to his election for public office and he served as county clerk, as register of deeds and in various other positions during the days of Sturgeon Bay's villagehood. In 1877 he removed to Chicago, but returned to Sturgeon Bay in 1888 and here spent his remaining days, his death occurring in that year. His widow still survives at the advanced age of eighty-four years. They had a family of fourteen children. The parents were consistent Christian people and aided in the organization of the first Methodist church of Sturgeon Bay. Mr. Garland was also an exemplary representative of the Masonic fraternity and assisted in organizing the lodge at Algoma. His political endorsement was given to the republican party.

Nathaniel C. Garland is indebted to the public school systems of this city and of Chicago for the educational opportunities which he enjoyed during his boyhood and youth. He began work with the Chicago Newspaper Union, there learning the printer's trade, which he has since followed, concentrating his efforts along this single line with the result that he has achieved success in his chosen field. In 1889 he returned to Sturgeon Bay, where he became connected with the Advocate, working his way upward to the position of assistant editor, and following the demise of Frank Long in 1913 he was chosen editor.

On the 26th of June, 1890, Mr. Garland was united in marriage to Miss Louise M. Coghlan of Chicago, a daughter of Daniel and Mary (Barnette) Coghlan, who were natives of Ireland and of Quebec, Canada, respectively. Mr. and Mrs. Garland have become parents of five children: Thomas, who is manager at Berlin, Wisconsin; Josephine, the wife of Clarence Benedict of Akron, Ohio; Marvel; John; and Nathaniel C.

Mr. Garland holds membership with the Knights of Pythias and with the Modern Woodmen of America. His political support has always been given to

the republican party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise and from 1901 until 1903 he filled the office of city clerk. In 1905 he was elected alderman and served in the city council until 1914, when he became the successful candidate for the office of mayor and at the close of a two years' term was reelected in 1916, so that he is now the chief executive of the city. In his position he studies questions of municipal progress, reform and improvement and his aid and influence are stanchly given to those measures and movements which he deems of benefit to the city and its people.

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#### HORACE F. EAMES, M. D.

Dr. Horace F. Eames is numbered among the most capable and distinguished representatives of the medical profession in Door county. Making his home in Egg Harbor his practice extends over wide territory and he enjoys not only the patronage of the public but also the confidence and goodwill of his colleagues. In addition to his professional interests he is one of the leading orchardists and dairymen of this section of the state, broad and thorough study giving him expert knowledge along those lines.

Dr. Eames was born in Masham, Quebec, Canada, May 30, 1859, a son of Horace William and Asenath (Mougin) Eames, who were natives of Vermont and New York respectively. The father was a farmer by occupation. About 1857 he went to Quebec and purchased land, and engaged in the lumber business with his father-in-law. In 1876 he arrived in Door county, Wisconsin, where he again bought land, turning his attention to farming. He continued to cultivate and improve that farm throughout his remaining days, his death occurring March 6, 1904, when he had reached the age of seventy-six years. For some time he had survived his wife, who died in October, 1890.

Dr. Eames was reared and educated in Canada. When seventeen years old he came to Door county, Wisconsin, where he taught school for five years, thus providing himself with the means to continue his education. He entered the Valparaiso (Ind.) University, from which he was graduated in 1884 with the degree of Bachelor of Science. He next became a student in the medical department of the University of Illinois, from which institution he was graduated in 1889. Having thus prepared himself for professional duties, he returned to Door county, where he has since followed his profession with the exception of three years spent in Michigan. He has made rapid and substantial progress in his chosen profession, keeping in touch at all times with the trend of modern scientific thought and investigation.

That he has the confidence and goodwill of his professional brethren is indicated by the fact that he has many times been elected to the presidency of the Door County Medical Society and he also belongs to the Wisconsin State and American Medical Associations.

In addition to his medical practice Dr. Eames has other business interests. He is now president of the Door County Telephone Company and he is the owner of four hundred acres of rich and valuable land in this county, which he has improved and cultivated. He has one hundred and twenty acres in orchard.





DR. HORACE F. EAMES



mostly planted to cherries, apples and plums, and he has a large herd of dairy cattle. He makes his home on his farm, known as The La Vista Farm and Orchard, which is situated a quarter of a mile from the village of Egg Harbor on sections 19, 21 and 30, Egg Harbor township. He also conducts a drug store in the village, of which he has been proprietor for twenty-three years, and he is the owner of the Eames steamboat dock which he bought in 1902. In this connection he enjoys an extensive patronage as all freight is shipped by boat.

On the 6th of April, 1887, Dr. Eames was married to Miss Emma F. Baker, a daughter of Russell and Jeanette (Rittenberg) Baker, who were natives of Vermont and Ohio respectively. The mother was a relative of William F. Cody, better known as Buffalo Bill. The father was a fisherman and came to Door county at a very early day, settling on Washington island about 1851. In 1857 he removed to Egg Harbor, where he engaged in farming throughout the remainder of his days. He died in 1884 and his widow is now living with Dr. and Mrs. Eames at the advanced age of eighty-seven years. Seven children have been born to Dr. and Mrs. Eames, namely: Gladys, the wife of Oscar F. Meredith, of Chicago; Grace A. and Enid, both at home; Frank, who is serving in the United States army; Bernice, who died June 31, 1917, at the age of nineteen years; Spencer and Harold, both at home.

Dr. Eames has served as chairman of the county commission on education and has filled other public offices, manifesting at all times a marked devotion to the general good. His political endorsement is given to the republican party and he is chairman of the county campaign committee. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and his religious faith is that of the Methodist church. He is a man of marked activity, of many sterling qualities, actuated by a spirit of progress and improvement in all that he undertakes for individual benefit and for the betterment of the public interests. His labors have been a most effective force in the upbuilding of the district in which he resides and he is a splendid type of American manhood and chivalry.

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### HENRY SORENSON.

Henry Sorenson, who resides in Clay Banks township, his home being on section 8, where he has an excellent farm of one hundred and twenty acres to which he has added many modern improvements, was born September 10, 1870, in Norway, his parents being Edward and Mary Sorenson, who arrived in Door county about 1872. Thinking to better their financial condition in the new world, they severed home ties and crossed the Atlantic to the United States. The father then purchased a forty acre tract of land, upon which their son Henry now resides, and throughout his remaining days he was closely associated with the agricultural development of his district. He was also a factor in its moral progress and was one of the founders of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Vignes. The mother died June 13, 1915, at the age of seventy-nine years, at which time her remains were interred in the Tanum cemetery by the side of her husband, who had passed away July 27, 1914.

Henry Sorenson was less than two years of age when brought by his parents

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to Door county. He devoted several years of his youth to sailing but eventually returned to the home farm and purchased his father's place. To this he has since added two forty acre tracts, making one hundred and twenty acres in all. He put up all the improvements of a modern character found upon the farm and he now has a well developed property, substantial buildings standing in the midst of highly cultivated fields, while the latest improved machinery facilitates the work of gathering the crops. In addition to his farming interests he is a stockholder and one of the directors of the Shiloh Telephone Company, with which he has thus been connected for four years.

Mr. Sorenson has been married twice. In 1893 he wedded Miss Jenny Halvorson, who passed away in 1895, leaving a daughter, Mabel. For his second wife he chose Miss Carrie Halvorson, a sister of his first wife, their marriage being celebrated in 1898. Eleven children have been born of this union, namely: John, Mary, Elmer, Jeannette, Gretchen, Kenneth, Leona, Lawrence, Bernice, Virgil and Curtis, all at home.

Mr. Sorenson is a devoted member of the Norwegian Lutheran church and in politics he is a stanch republican. His fellow townsmen, appreciative of his worth and ability, have several times called him to office. For two terms he was a member of the school board, serving as treasurer and director; for six years he was township treasurer; for four years was supervisor; and for the past three years has been chairman of the town board. He studies closely the questions which are of interest as bearing upon the welfare and progress of his community and he cooperates in all plans and measures for the general good. Those who know him esteem him as a reliable business man, as a progressive and loyal citizen and as a faithful friend.

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#### HENRY W. GOETTELMAN.

Henry W. Goettelman, who is engaged in general merchandising at Sawyer as a member of the Goettelman-Warner Company, which owns and controls one of the leading stores of the town, was born March 22, 1878, at the place where he still resides, his parents being John and Phillipina Goettelman. The father, who was born in Germany in 1844, came to this country in 1874 and conducted one of the first hotels at Sawyer, where he continued in the business until his death, which occurred in 1913. He was married at West Bend, Wisconsin, and his widow still survives at the age of sixty-seven years.

Henry W. Goettelman acquired a public school education and in the school of experience he has learned many valuable and practical lessons. Starting out in the business world, he secured a clerkship with Lyon Brothers & Company and for eighteen years remained a salesman in that establishment. In 1912 Lyon Brothers & Company sold out to P. J. Lindon, who conducted the business until 1915, when he sold the store to Mr. Goettelman, William Warner and Miss Alice Samuelson, who then organized the firm now operating under the name of the Goettelman-Warner Company. They conduct a general merchandise establishment at Sawyer, having one of the leading stores of the town. It was remodeled in 1916 and is a two-story and basement structure forty by eighty feet, well

equipped for the purposes for which it is used. They carry a large and carefully selected line of dry goods, groceries, crockery, men's furnishing goods, rugs and linoleum and are constantly studying the best methods of meeting the popular taste and enlarging the field of their trade. Their business methods are thoroughly reliable, courteous treatment is ever extended their patrons and efficiency is their watchword in the conduct of their interests.

On the 18th of June, 1902, Mr. Goettelman was united in marriage to Miss Dorothy Taube, a native of this county and a daughter of Herman Taube. They have two children, Edna May and Royal. The parents are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and in politics Mr. Goettelman maintains an independent course, casting his ballot according to the dictates of his judgment. He has never sought office, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs. His entire life has been devoted to commercial interests and not a little of the success which he has achieved is due to his close application, his persistency of purpose and his laudable ambition.

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#### ALFRED OLSON.

Door county with its long shore line, caused by the frequent bay indentations, and its attractive and equable climate, is a splendid summer resort. Many of its citizens, therefore, have turned their attention to the hotel business in the entertainment of summer tourists. Mr. Olson is among this number and is proprietor of the Pine Grove Hotel at Ephraim. He was born at North Bay, in Door county, January 7, 1881, a son of Samuel and Serena (Larson) Olson. The father is a native of Norway, but came to America when about fifteen years of age and settled in Door county, where he followed farming and fishing, devoting many years to those pursuits. In fact he is still engaged along those lines and is making a specialty of horticulture, having a large orchard of fifteen hundred cherry trees and several acres planted to other fruit. He has closely studied fruit production in relation to soil and climate in this district and has succeeded in so propagating his trees that excellent results are annually secured. In 1893 he was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who passed away in March of that year.

Alfred Olson spent the days of his boyhood and youth in Baileys Harbor township, his home being in North Bay. He worked for his father and acquired his education in the district schools near his father's home. Following his marriage he removed to Ephraim and turned his attention to the hotel business, erecting a nice hotel on the bay and also four cottages. His place is called the Pine Grove Hotel and has accommodations for forty people. In addition to this property Mr. Olson owns forty acres of land in State Park, which he also cultivates. He operates a launch on the bay and he puts forth every effort to enhance the comfort and pleasure of his guests, so that his resort is liberally patronized.

Mr. Olson was united in marriage on the 8th of December, 1908, to Miss Augusta Jarman, a daughter of Charles and Christina (Foster) Jarman. The father was born in 1841 in Clifton, England, while the mother was a native of

Sweden. It was about 1855 that the father crossed the Atlantic to the new world and established his home in Dodge county, Wisconsin. He made farming his life work and took up government land upon his removal to Door county, securing a tract in Gibraltar township. He was its pioneer settler and the first one to engage in farming in that township. As the years passed he carefully and systematically developed his fields and continued successfully to operate his farm until 1902, when he sold his property and retired. He made his home in Ephraim during the remainder of his life, his death occurring February 16, 1917. His widow still survives and enjoys the goodwill and high regard of an extensive circle of friends, as did her husband. To Mr. and Mrs. Olson has been born a son, Lloyd, whose birth occurred on the 22d of April, 1911.

In political belief Mr. Olson is a stalwart republican, exercising his right of franchise always in support of the men and measures of the party. His religious faith is that of the Moravian church, while his wife holds membership in the Lutheran church. Both have many sterling traits of character which have endeared them to all with whom they have come in contact.

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### JOHN M. LAURIE.

John M. Laurie occupies the old home of the Laurie family, about three miles from Sturgeon Bay. He has for a long period been actively engaged in the operation of a stone quarry and in this connection has developed a business of extent and importance. In matters of citizenship, too, he has taken an active interest and has furthered the work of progress and improvement, especially in the building of macadamized roads, leading to the development of a system of highways in Door county of which it has every reason to be proud.

Mr. Laurie was born in Sturgeon Bay, May 17, 1862, and is a son of Robert and Catherine (Monroe) Laurie, both of whom were natives of Glasgow, Scotland, in which country they were reared and married. They came to the United States in 1852 and for two years were residents of Buffalo, New York, but in 1854 arrived in Door county, Wisconsin, at a period when few white settlers had penetrated into the region and the seeds of civilization had yet to be planted in this district. Robert Laurie took up government land on the outskirts of what is now Sturgeon Bay and began the difficult task of clearing the timber and preparing the fields for the plow. He also entered the field of ship building and in 1857 built the Peninsula, which was the first vessel ever built at this point. It was a sailing boat of sixty tons capacity and was used for carrying freight and passengers. It made the trip from Green Bay to Sturgeon Bay in four hours and fifteen minutes, and Robert Graham, who built the first sawmill at Sturgeon Bay, was a passenger on that trip. Later Robert Laurie built a number of vessels, which were operated on Lake Michigan, and in connection with Soren Peterson, he conducted the first general store at Sturgeon Bay, this becoming the initial step in the business development of the district. Mr. Laurie also opened a lime kiln about 1869 and it was he who brought the first cherries to Door county, planting trees in the early '60s. In the early days he would walk from Sturgeon Bay to Green Bay, a distance of fifty miles, to do his banking.

and he would not only make the trip but would also cover ten miles of the return trip on the same day. In the summer months he went by boat but in the winter had to go on foot. There were few horses in the county at that time and one was lucky if he possessed an ox team. There were no phases of pioneer development and progress in Door county with which Robert Laurie was not familiar and his labors were of the utmost benefit in the upbuilding of this section. He was highly esteemed by all who knew him and he had the warm friendship of all of his brethren of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He died October 15, 1889, and was long survived by his wife, who passed away in February, 1908. In their family were seven children: James, now residing in Montana; Aleck, living in Sturgeon Bay; Katherine, the wife of William Snyder, of Sturgeon Bay; John M.; Christina; Isabel, the wife of William Drumb, editor of the Tribune of Grand Rapids, Wisconsin; and Elizabeth, the wife of A. Forge, of Sturgeon Bay.

John M. Laurie, spending his boyhood and youth under the parental roof, acquired a public school education and when his textbooks were put aside became the active assistant of his father in carrying on the business enterprises in which the father engaged. In 1880 he opened the Laurie Stone Quarry and in this connection an extensive, important and profitable business has been developed. John M. Laurie is still operating along that line and fills many contracts for stone each year, his business now bringing to him a most substantial annual return.

Mr. Laurie is a chapter Mason and is also identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and in 1904 he became chairman of the board of supervisors of Sevastopol township. While in that office he established the first macadamized roads in the county and has since been active in road development here. He was made road commissioner in 1907 and again in 1915 and has labored so earnestly and effectively to further the public highway improvements that the county is today famous for its good roads. Mr. Laurie occupies the old homestead, three miles from Sturgeon Bay, and remains one of the active and progressive citizens of Door county. The splendid work for public improvement which his father instituted in pioneer times he has carried forward by giving active cooperation to all movements for the general good.

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#### EDWARD M. MOELLER.

Edward M. Moeller, a worthy native son and representative agriculturist of Door county, owns and operates an excellent farm of eighty acres on section 21, Sevastopol township. His birth occurred in that township on the 22d of February, 1885, his parents being Marcus and Pulchira Moeller, natives of Germany. Emigrating to the United States, they took up their abode in Door county, Wisconsin, and were here married. Their children were eight in number, as follows: William, deceased, who was buried in the Catholic cemetery; August, an agriculturist of Sevastopol township; Anna, who is the wife of Joseph Hoberlie, of Sevastopol; Frank, a resident of Sturgeon Bay; Josephine, twin sister of Frank, who is the wife of William Schmidt, of Forestville, Wisconsin; Matilda, who gave

her hand in marriage to Herman Schmidt, of Door county; Herman, a successful contractor of Sturgeon Bay; and Edward M., of this review.

The last named acquired his education in the public and parochial schools of this county and when fourteen years of age began assisting his father in the operation of the home farm. On this place he has remained to the present time and it is now in his possession, for he purchased the property from the estate in 1912. It comprises eighty acres of rich and productive land on section 21, Sevastopol township, and in its cultivation Mr. Moeller is meeting with success, the well tilled fields annually yielding golden harvests in return for the care and labor which he bestows upon them. In the years 1911, 1912 and 1913 he served as secretary and treasurer of the Cooperative Creamery.

On the 11th of June, 1907, in Door county, Mr. Moeller was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary Kenny, her parents being Ed and Mary Ann Kenny, the former a native of Ireland and the latter of this county. To them were born seven children, namely: Ella; John; Berdie; Joseph; Mrs. Mary Moeller; Genevieve; and Grace, who is the wife of L. C. Davis, of North Dakota. Mr. and Mrs. Moeller have two children: Grace, born March 31, 1908; and Gordon, whose birth occurred May 1, 1914.

Mr. Moeller is independent in politics and served as town clerk in 1912. He was also chosen school director of district No. 4, Sevastopol township, and acted as registrar of Sevastopol in 1917, ever discharging his public duties in a most prompt, systematic and capable manner. He is a devout communicant of the Catholic church and also belongs to the Catholic Order of Foresters and the Catholic Knights of Wisconsin. His life is upright and honorable in every relation, winning him the respect and esteem of those with whom he has been associated.

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### JOHN H. CARMODY.

John H. Carmody, proprietor of Harbor Inn, a popular hotel at Egg Harbor, and also connected with other business interests of the town, was born October 6, 1871, a son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Gonyon) Carmody, the latter a native of Summer Island, Door county. The father was born in Iceland, and in early life came to the new world, settling at Columbus, Wisconsin, where he was in the employ of the railroad for several years. He then went to Manitowoc, Wisconsin, where he also spent a number of years and later he removed to Door county, taking up a homestead claim in Egg Harbor township. This he developed and improved, continuing its cultivation until 1907, when he retired from active business life. He is now residing in the Soldiers' Home at Waupaca, Wisconsin, having served for a year and a half as a soldier in the Civil war, with the Wisconsin Infantry. His wife died in 1897 at the age of forty-six years.

John H. Carmody spent the days of his boyhood and youth in Door county and at the age of eighteen years left home in order to earn his own living. He worked in the lumber woods and in the sawmills for several years and afterward purchased land in Egg Harbor and this he improved and cultivated for a decade. He performed the arduous task of clearing fifty acres of this and he brought it under a high state of cultivation. In 1912 he came to the village of Egg Harbor







CHARLES L. NELSON

and purchased the Harbor Inn and saloon which he has since conducted. He is a popular hotel proprietor, carefully looking after the interests and comfort of his guests. He is also a stockholder in the Peoples Store of Sturgeon Bay.

On the 26th of May, 1896, Mr. Carmody was married to Miss Phoebe LaFontaine, and they have become the parents of eight children: Luella, who died in April, 1897; Walter, Maude, Amy, Frederick, and Eleanor, all at home; Orin, deceased; and Louis. The religious faith of the family is that of the Catholic church and Mr. Carmody belongs also to the Fraternal Order of Eagles. His political endorsement is given the democratic party, but he does not seek nor desire office, giving his entire attention to his business affairs and as proprietor of Harbor Inn he is now meeting with success.

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#### CHARLES L. NELSON.

Charles L. Nelson, the president of the Merchants Exchange Bank of Sturgeon Bay, which he organized in 1891, has been connected with banking interests in Door county longer than any other man and has wisely directed the affairs of the institution of which he is the head, making it of great service to the community. In many other ways he has also aided in the advancement of the public interests and there is no citizen of the county held in higher esteem than he. He was born February 14, 1845, in Norway, Europe, a son of Andrew and Caroline Nelson, who on emigrating to America with their family made their way at once to Ephraim, Door county, Wisconsin, where they arrived August 24, 1854. At that early date practically this entire region was covered by virgin forests and the work of development appeared scarcely to have been thought of. For a time the father engaged in carpentering and later purchased twenty-one acres of timber land near Sturgeon Bay, then only a small village. He cleared his land and engaged in raising the usual crops. That farm is now a part of the fourth ward of the city of Sturgeon Bay.

Charles L. Nelson, who is one of a family of eleven children, four sons and seven daughters, attended school at Sturgeon Bay. When eighteen years old he began his independent career and at length purchased the homestead although his father continued to reside there until his death. For eight or ten years Mr. Nelson of this review was variously employed and for three years of the Civil war period he was clerk in a general store conducted by a Mr. Schjoth. Subsequently he was for seven years a clerk for A. W. Lawrence & Company and then formed a partnership for the conduct of an insurance business with C. M. Smith. The firm was very successful, and, recognizing the need for banking facilities in the county, began to engage in banking to some extent in connection with their other interests. This arrangement continued until 1886, when Mr. Smith disposed of his share in the business to George O. Spear, who remained in partnership with Mr. Nelson until 1891. In that year the banking business was organized under the name of Merchants Exchange Bank with Mr. Nelson as president and W. A. Lawrence as bookkeeper. The institution has had a very prosperous career and is now one of the most solid banks in all northeastern Wisconsin. The present officers are: Charles L. Nelson, president; William A.

Lawrence, vice president; Clyde M. Stephenson, cashier; and Julia E. Clark, assistant cashier. The excellent condition of the bank reflects great credit upon its officers, all of whom are energetic, capable and thoroughly reliable, and the bank has the entire confidence of the community. The capital and surplus is now more than \$62,500 and the assets are over \$536,000. The Merchants Exchange Bank is the oldest banking house in the county and its success is due in large measure to Mr. Nelson, who has been its chief executive officer during the entire period of its existence. He also owns valuable city and farm property and is a firm believer in the future of Door county.

Mr. Nelson was married in 1870 to Miss Eliza Coleman, a native of Geneva, Illinois, and one of the early school teachers of Door county. They have had six children, as follows: Herbert, a resident of Kansas City; Charles L., Jr., who is a graduate of the State University of Wisconsin and is now in the United States army; Sidney R., of San Diego, California; Jessie, the wife of Sam Swanson, assistant attorney for the Northwestern Mutual Insurance Company of Milwaukee; Lillie, who is the wife of Charles Camp, a rancher living near San Diego, California; and Florence, who died when ten years old.

Mr. Nelson was quite prominent in the local councils of the republican party and took an active part in public affairs. For four years he was village treasurer, for two years town treasurer, and for six years city treasurer, his repeated elections to office indicating the confidence reposed in him by his fellow citizens. He is quite well known fraternally, belonging to Henry S. Baird Lodge, No. 211, A. F. & A. M., of Sturgeon Bay, to the Knight Templar Commandery at Green Bay and to the consistory and Mystic Shrine at Milwaukee, and being also a charter member of both the Knights of Pythias and the Odd Fellows lodges at Sturgeon Bay. He and his wife have traveled extensively throughout the United States, Canada and Mexico and the many-sided contacts with life thus secured have made him a man of liberal views and of wide information. He is a very agreeable companion as well as a business man of more than usual insight and power and as a citizen his public spirit has been proven time and time again.

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#### AUGUST RIEBOLDT.

No record of industrial development and activity in Sturgeon Bay would be complete without extended reference to August Rieboldt, who since 1890 has been actively associated with the interests of Sturgeon Bay as a shipbuilder. There is in his life history much that is commendable for the story shows what can be accomplished when there is a will to dare and to do, giving proof of the fact that in America "labor is king." Mr. Rieboldt is a native of Prussia. He was born in Falkenwald, in the province of Brandenburg, January 23, 1849, but was only about two years old when brought by his parents to the new world. Reared in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, he spent a few terms as a student in the Lutheran parochial school and when a youth of thirteen was confirmed in that church. The following year he made his initial step in the business world by entering upon an apprenticeship at furniture making at a period when practically all furniture was made by hand. He did not get along well with his first employer and at the



AUGUST RIEBOLDT



end of a year left, but soon afterward entered upon another apprenticeship under a Herman Wolter, under whose directions he acquired a competent knowledge of the trade. He received during the first year a wage of six dollars, for the second year twelve dollars and for the third eighteen dollars. Although the money received was very small it was better than some apprentices, for at that time it was not an unusual thing for a youth to pay for the privilege of learning rather than to receive any wage. After working at furniture making for a short time Mr. Rieboldt in 1866 changed his occupation somewhat by accepting a position in the shipyards at Sheboygan and while thus employed he also sailed at various times on the brig *Sailorboy* and other vessels, for from early youth he had practical knowledge of sailing. At one time he was also a member of the volunteer life saving crew and many rescues have been reported to his credit. Hardships came to him in connection with his experience as a sailor but all these things called forth in him the qualities of manhood and courage and also developed quickness of thought in emergencies.

In the fall of 1869 Mr. Rieboldt went south to spend some time at Memphis, Tennessee. Important events often come in the guise of commonplaces. It seemed no particular event in the life of Mr. Rieboldt when in 1870 he entered the employ of the Wolf & Davidson Company of Milwaukee at their shipyard, yet it was this step which led him into his present important field of labor. He not only worked in the yards but also as master commanded a sailing vessel for that firm during two seasons, and in 1883 and 1884 he had charge of the wrecking tug boat *Leviathan*. In 1885 he entered into partnership with Joseph Wolter, who was then foreman of the Wolf & Davidson Company, to establish a ship-building yard at Sheboygan. Their first boat was the tug *Sheboygan*, and from that time on they have been kept constantly busy in the construction of boats, some large, some small, until the number now reaches about sixty. They were the builders of the *Helena*, which at one time was the largest sailing vessel on the lakes. They were also builders of the *Marion*, the *John Schroeder*, the *E. A. Shores* and many others. The firm has ever maintained an unusual reputation for the integrity of its methods as well as the thoroughness of its work, and the growth of the business leads to the employment of two hundred and forty workmen at the present time, most of whom are skilled in this particular line of labor. They have built over 60 vessels of various kinds. Mr. Rieboldt is also one of the stockholders of the Wisconsin Dredge & Dock Company which has executed very important government and other contracts along the line indicated, and he also owns stock in the Bank of Sturgeon Bay.

On the 5th of October, 1876, Mr. Rieboldt was united in marriage to Miss Maria Davidson, a native of Milwaukee where her father settled in pioneer times. She passed away November 16, 1905, her death being deeply regretted by many friends as well as her immediate family because of the nobility of her character, her social charms and her many kindnesses to those who needed assistance. Mr. and Mrs. Rieboldt were the parents of six sons and a daughter, Edward, Henry L., William A., Frederick H., Arthur D., Mabel and Clarence E.

Mr. Rieboldt is independent in politics. It is characteristic of him that he does not hesitate to express his honest convictions nor support those principles in which he believes. He is well known in masonic circles, holding membership in lodge, chapter and council at Sturgeon Bay and he also belongs to the Knights

of Pythias. He is likewise a member of the Twenty Club composed of Sturgeon Bay's most prominent citizens, and of this he has been vice president. He stands for all that is most progressive in the public life of the community and his influence is always given on the side of those activities which are a matter of civic virtue and civic pride.

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#### AUSTIN OWEN.

Austin Owen, a well known agriculturist residing on section 31, Sturgeon Bay township, came to Door county twenty-one years ago and has since been actively and successfully identified with its farming interests. His birth occurred in Norway, on the 20th of January, 1859, and when a young man of twenty-two years he crossed the Atlantic to the United States, taking up his abode in Renville county, Minnesota, in 1881. His parents later also emigrated to the new world and spent their last days in Renville county, Minnesota, where they were buried. The year 1896 witnessed Mr. Owen's arrival in Door county and here he purchased the farm of Lonie Anderson, comprising eighty acres on section 31, Sturgeon Bay township, on which he now resides and which he has cultivated continuously to the present time. He follows enterprising, progressive methods in the conduct of his agricultural interests and annually gathers rich crops which find a ready sale on the market.

On May 10, 1892, Mr. Owen was united in marriage to Mrs. Marie Johnson, a native of Norway, by whom he has two children: William, born September 12, 1895; and Daniel, whose natal day was September 26, 1902. By her first husband Mrs. Owen had a daughter, Olga Johnson, who was born in 1889.

Since becoming a naturalized American citizen Mr. Owen has supported the men and measures of the republican party. He has ably served as supervisor for three terms and for two terms has been director of school district No. 5. He belongs to the Farmers' Union and is a devoted and consistent member of the Norwegian Lutheran church. Coming to the new world in early manhood, he here found the opportunities which he sought and in their wise utilization has won a place among the substantial agriculturists and respected citizens of his community.

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#### HERBERT C. SCOFIELD.

Herbert C. Scofield is the secretary and treasurer of the Scofield Company of Sturgeon Bay, which owns and controls the largest hardware store of the city and the second largest in the state. His birth occurred in Pensaukee, Wisconsin, November 25, 1859, his parents being Charles and Maria H. (Stacy) Scofield, who were natives of Champlain, New York, and Minot, Maine, respectively. Both came to the west as young people and were married at Pensaukee in 1858. The father turned his attention to the lumber industry and figured prominently in that connection for many years. He acted as foreman



for the F. B. Gardner Lumber Company at Pensaukee and in 1867 he went to Green Bay, building a sawmill on Shawano road. This he sold to Cook & Foster in 1869. It was also in that year that he purchased the lumber mill of Louis Van Dyke at Red River, Wisconsin, and admitted John Leathem and Thomas Smith to a partnership in the business. This association was maintained until 1881, when Mr. Scofield sold out to his partners. In 1869 he removed to Kewaunee county, where he conducted a lumber business until November, 1880, when he came to Door county and established a lumberyard at Sturgeon Bay. During the period of his residence in this county Mr. Scofield figured prominently in public affairs and left the impress of his individuality for good upon public thought and action. In 1875 he represented his district in the general assembly. He also served on the school board of Sturgeon Bay and, moreover, is entitled to distinction as the first mayor of the city. His political endorsement was always given to the republican party and he studied closely those questions and interests which are to the statesman and the man of affairs of gravest import. He belonged to the Congregational church and to the Masonic fraternity and these associations indicated the nature of his interests and the rules that governed his conduct. He was called from this life October 20, 1891, while his widow survived until June 15, 1904. They were the parents of six children: Herbert C.; H. F., who is president of the Scofield Hardware Company; Nellie, at home; Fannie M., who married H. P. Hendricks and is now cashier with the Scofield Hardware Company at Sturgeon Bay; Florence, who is a nurse in Mercy Hospital of Chicago; and Jessie, the wife of Dr. R. M. Parker, of Chicago.

Herbert C. Scofield acquired his education in public schools of this state and in the Green Bay Business College. He then became associated with his father in the lumber business and for three years, from 1879 until 1881 inclusive, was upon the road as a traveling salesman, representing the wholesale clothing house of Clement & Sayer of Chicago for a year and the firm of Bierman & Heidelberg, wholesale clothiers of New York, for two years. He afterward came to Sturgeon Bay and entered the employ of the Sturgeon Bay Lumber Company as buyer. He continued in that capacity for about seven years, at the end of which time, or in 1888, he organized the firm of Scofield & Hendricks for the conduct of a hardware business. The following year his brother, H. F. Scofield, purchased the interest of Mr. Hendricks and the Scofield Company was then organized. The business was incorporated in 1900, with H. F. Scofield as the president and Herbert C. Scofield as the secretary and treasurer. This is the oldest and largest hardware store of the city and with one exception is the most extensive in the state. The business has grown to very gratifying proportions and its development has been based upon the most substantial business principles and most progressive commercial methods.

On the 6th of December, 1883, Mr. Scofield was married to Miss Augusta M. Uecke, of Seymour, Wisconsin. Their children are: H. R., who organized the Scofield Auto Music Company, a very successful business enterprise of Columbia, South Carolina; Howard, who died in 1898, at the age of twelve years; Stanley M., of New York, who is a graduate of the Art Institute Chicago and is now a commercial designer and artist of the eastern metropolis; and Lloyd M., residing in New York city with his brother Stanley.

Fraternally Mr. Scofield is an exemplary Mason, loyal to the teachings and

purposes of the craft, and he is also connected with the Knights of Pythias. He is president of the Rayside Cemetery Association and is now serving for the second term of three years as president of the Commercial Club. He has been honored with the presidency of the State Retail Hardware Association, which position he filled in 1912 and 1913—a position which indicated the high regard entertained for him in commercial circles. He was also elected a delegate to the National Hardware Association for five years. He was also elected president of the Door County Council of Defense, organized May 10, 1917. In politics he has ever been a stalwart republican and has again and again been called upon for public service. For four terms he represented the first ward in the city council and afterward was elected from the second ward. In 1899 he was a candidate for mayor against George Nelson and was elected by three votes. Such was the splendid record which he made in office that at the succeeding election he was elected without opposition. He has since served again for two terms in the city council and was one of the first three to be elected on the utility commission. There is no man who occupies a more enviable position in public regard than Herbert C. Scofield, not alone by reason of the success which he has achieved but also by reason of the straightforward business policy which he has ever followed and the prominent part which he has taken in furthering the general welfare and advancing the interests of the city. He has been a close and discriminating student of all vital public problems and has been actuated in his official service by a singleness of purpose that none have questioned. People may differ from him in policy, but they never doubt his fidelity to his honest convictions and many tangible evidences of the value of his work can be cited. The name of Scofield has indeed figured prominently upon the pages of Sturgeon Bay's history since his father became the first mayor of the city, and the progressive work instituted by the father had been carried forward by the son to the benefit of all residents of Sturgeon Bay.

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#### WILLIAM STRUCK.

William Struck is actively identified with one of the most important industries of Door county, that of cheese manufacturing, which he successfully follows in Union township. He was born in Chicago on the 20th of March, 1882, and is a son of Albert and Augusta (Frend) Struck. The parents were natives of Germany, where they were reared and married and in 1881 they came to the United States, settling in Chicago, Illinois, where the father worked as a carpenter and mason contractor. Later he came to Door county, establishing his home in Gardner township, where he purchased a farm which was then covered with a dense growth of native trees. He cleared the place and improved it, converting it into an attractive property, upon which he resided for a number of years, becoming one of the prosperous agriculturists of his community. Eventually he removed to Florida, where he now resides. His wife is deceased.

William Struck spent his boyhood in Gardner township and was there reared and educated. After his textbooks were put aside he learned the business of cheese making and in 1904 went to Sevastopol township, where he engaged in

the manufacture of cheese for a year. In 1908 he took up his abode in Gardner township, where he purchased the Gardner Cheese Factory, there carrying on business for two years. In 1906 he located in Brussels township, where he continued in cheese manufacturing for eight years and in 1914 he removed to Union township, where he is engaged in the same line of business and is controlling extensive and important interests of that character. He has built a fine cheese factory, thoroughly modern in its equipment, and also built an excellent store building and has erected other buildings. He follows the most modern processes in cheese manufacturing, and the excellence of his product insures a liberal patronage, for he is recognized as a man of thoroughly progressive and reliable business methods.

In 1910 Mr. Struck was united in marriage to Miss Bertha Schwede, a daughter of August Schwede and a native of Nasewaupee township. She taught school for ten years before her marriage. They have one child, Donald. Both Mr. and Mrs. Struck are well known in their locality and enjoy the warm regard of all with whom they have been associated, having many friends in the district.

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### JAMES E. JOHNSON.

James E. Johnson, secretary and superintendent of the utilities commission of Sturgeon Bay, was born in Brown county, Wisconsin, May 29, 1874, a son of Harry A. and Anna (Hanson) Johnson, both of whom were natives of Norway. The former crossed the Atlantic in 1872 and made his way across the country to Green Bay, Wisconsin. He had learned the ship carpentry trade in his native country and continued to work along that line at Green Bay for three years. In 1875 he came to Sturgeon Bay, where he again worked at his trade for twenty years. He finally built for himself a boat and sailed on the lakes as its captain for a long period, but later lived retired with his son James. He passed away July 15, 1917. He reached the advanced age of eighty-three years and had long survived his wife, who passed away in November, 1893.

James E. Johnson was but a year old when his parents removed to Sturgeon Bay and here the days of his boyhood and youth were passed, his education being acquired in the public schools. He sailed with his father for three years and afterward learned the electrical business, working as an electrician in Holland, Michigan, until 1896. He then removed to Milwaukee, where he continued to follow his trade until 1914. He afterward returned to Sturgeon Bay and was elected to the position of secretary and superintendent of the utilities commission, in which capacity he has since served. He has charge of all the public utilities including light, water, heat and the toll bridge and he manages the affairs of the office with businesslike precision, as carefully and as wisely directing these public interests as if they were matters of individual concern.

Mr. Johnson was united in marriage to Miss Julia Erickson, of Valders, Wisconsin, May 5, 1900, and to them have been born three children: Jessie B., who was born in November, 1901; Thelma A., who was born in 1904 and died in January, 1913; and Allen E., born in June, 1910.

Mr. Johnson and his wife are connected with the Moravian church and he

gives his political allegiance to the republican party, while fraternally he is connected with the Masons and the Knights of Pythias. He has many sterling traits of character which have won him high regard, he is loyal in friendship, prompt and reliable in office and faithful at all times to the duties which devolve upon him either of a public or a private nature.

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• WILLIAM A. LAWRENCE.

For forty-four years William A. Lawrence has been a resident of Sturgeon Bay and for a quarter of a century has been connected with the banking business, being now vice president of the Merchants Exchange Bank. He is one of the substantial citizens that New England has furnished to Wisconsin, his birth having occurred in Garland, Maine, November 5, 1856. His parents, Jonathan C. and Livonia B. (Brockway) Lawrence, were both natives of New Hampshire, but their marriage occurred in Maine. The father was a son of Bennett Lawrence, of New Hampshire, who was descended from an old Massachusetts family. In the year 1890 Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan C. Lawrence came to Sturgeon Bay, where their remaining days were passed.

Their son, William A. Lawrence, had previously settled here in 1873, when a youth of seventeen years. He had acquired a public school education in New England and on coming west he secured a position in the office of A. W. Lawrence & Company, who were engaged in the conduct of a mercantile and lumber business, the senior partner being his uncle. William A. Lawrence remained with his uncle until he sold out to L. M. Washburn and then in 1891 he became connected with the Merchants Exchange Bank, entering upon that line of activity which in the course of years has brought him to his present position. He was for a considerable period cashier of the bank and in 1914 was elected to the vice presidency. He has long had voice in its management and control and has been an effective factor in establishing its policy upon a safe and substantial basis. In a word, he is thoroughly familiar with modern banking principles and methods and has ever recognized the fact that the bank is the most worthy of patronage which most carefully safeguards and protects the interests of depositors.

Mr. Lawrence married Miss Josephine N. Nelson, who was born in Sturgeon Bay. They have become the parents of a son and a daughter, Harry and Clara C. The former is a graduate of the high school of Sturgeon Bay and pursued a business course in Lawrence University and a special course in Marquette University. He is now head office man and private secretary to August Bech of the Bech Lumber Company of Milwaukee. He is married but has no children. The daughter, Clara, is the wife of William F. Swanston, of Milwaukee. She was graduated from the Sturgeon Bay high school and for a time successfully engaged in teaching here.

Mr. Lawrence votes with the republican party and is a firm believer in its principles. He has served for ten years as a member of the city council and for four years as a member of the county board of supervisors, in both of which positions he put forth every possible effort to further the interests and welfare

of city and county. He was also at one time a member of the school board of Sturgeon Bay, serving for about ten years. He attends the Congregational church and he holds membership with several fraternal organizations, including the Masons, the Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias. In Masonry he has attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite. He became a charter member of Henry S. Baird Lodge, No. 211, of this organization in 1878 and has since advanced through the various degrees of Masonry, becoming a Consistory member in Milwaukee and also a member of Palestine Commandery No. 20, K. T., of Green Bay. His life, upright and honorable in its purposes, has been attended with good results. Not only has he won individual success, but through his active labors in connection with public affairs he has also contributed to the general progress and prosperity of the community.

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#### CARL F. KRUEGER.

Carl F. Krueger is the owner of an excellent farm on section 33, Egg Harbor township, on which he has splendid improvements, indicating his progressive spirit and efficient methods in carrying on his farm work. He was born in Germany, September 14, 1853, and is a son of Carl and Mary (Stieber) Krueger, who were also natives of Germany, where the father followed the occupation of farming throughout his entire life. He there passed away in 1907, while his wife died in 1901.

Carl F. Krueger was reared and educated in Germany and, when not busy with his school books, worked in the fields, being thus employed until 1881. He was in his twenty-eighth year when he bade adieu to his friends and native country and sailed for the United States, thinking to better his business opportunities on this side of the Atlantic. Making his way to Door county, he was employed as a farm hand here for two years and then purchased his present place of one hundred and twenty acres on section 33, Egg Harbor township. With characteristic energy he began to cultivate and develop his farm until he now has one of the best improved farms in the county. His home is a modern, two story, brick residence, built in an attractive style of architecture, and he has a large and well equipped barn and all the latest improved machinery on his farm. At one time he owned more land but has sold it, retaining only his original tract. In addition to raising grain, he engages in feeding cattle, of which he keeps a good grade.

On the 1st of September, 1883, Mr. Krueger was married to Miss Minnie Schultz, a daughter of Fred and Fredericka (Sunda) Schultz, who were also natives of Germany, but came to America in 1881, and took up their abode in this county, where the father followed farming throughout his remaining days. He died in 1909, while his wife survived until 1916. Mr. and Mrs. Krueger have become the parents of five children: Albert, a resident of Amsterdam, New York; Emil, a farmer of Egg Harbor township; Annie, the wife of Martin Blank, a teacher of Thiensville, Wisconsin; Alvina, the wife of Carl Wolzien, a butter maker of Black Creek, Wisconsin; and Edmund, who is farming with his father.

The religious faith of the family is that of the Lutheran church. Mr.

Krueger is a republican in politics and has served as supervisor of Egg Harbor. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to come to the new world, for here he has found the business opportunities which he sought, and has enjoyed in this land of liberty many advantages which have enabled him to work his way steadily upward and win a substantial measure of success.

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### JOSEPH WOLTER.

Statistics show that about ninety per cent of business men may be regarded practically as failures. At least they do not pass beyond the point of mediocrity, and yet success may be attained by qualities that all may cultivate and develop. Success is the result of determined effort intelligently directed, and it is along this line that Joseph Wolter has proceeded, passing many on life's journey who, perhaps, started out with him under more advantageous circumstances, and today he is at the head of the Rieboldt, Wolter Company, owners of the shipyards and dry docks at Sturgeon Bay, the largest industrial enterprise of the city. The story of his progress is an interesting one and should serve to inspire and encourage others, for not only has he won success in that field but has also entered upon other business connections which have gained him prominence as a representative of the industrial and financial interests of Door county. He was born in Milwaukee on the 17th of May, 1857, his parents being William and Katherine Wolter, both of whom were natives of Germany but became residents of Milwaukee about 1845 and were married in that city. The father was a shipbuilder by trade and for many years was in the employ of the Wolf & Davidson Company of Milwaukee. There the father passed away in 1907, having for almost two decades survived his wife who died about 1888. In their family were two sons and two daughters: Mary, who occupies the old home in Milwaukee; Joseph: Charles, deceased; and Anna, the wife of Peter Jonas, of Milwaukee.

Joseph Wolter was reared and educated in his native city where he attended a Catholic parochial school and later received his business training in the shipbuilding yards of Wolf & Davidson. He thus early took up the trade to which he has practically devoted his life. He thoroughly mastered every task assigned him and displayed such ability and fidelity that he was promoted from time to time until he became foreman of the company when still a comparatively young man. Ambitious to engage in business on his own account he went to Sheboygan, where, in connection with August Rieboldt, who had also been an employee of the Wolf & Davidson Company, he established a shipyard. Not long afterward they began the building of the Helena, which for a considerable period was the largest sailing boat on the great lakes. They have been the builders of many well known vessels including the Marion, the John Schroeder, the E. A. Shores and various tugs and smaller craft. The firm also built three wooden boats for the fire department of Milwaukee. In 1896 they changed their base of operations, establishing their floating docks at Sturgeon Bay and entering upon the work of shipbuilding at this point. They not only build ships but do all kinds of repair work and have dry docks for two large vessels. Since the removal to Sturgeon Bay the company has built over fifty boats of about three hundred



JOSEPH WOLTER





tons each. They employ two hundred and forty people, mostly skilled workmen. In 1890 the company took up the business of dredging in which they have since been continually engaged in addition to their shipbuilding and repairing interests. Under the name of the Wisconsin Dredge & Dock Company they operate two dredges and pile drivers in doing government and other contract work. Upon the incorporation of the company it was capitalized for fifty thousand dollars with Mr. Wolter as president and C. A. Reiss as secretary and treasurer. This company has its headquarters at Sheboygan.

Mr. Wolter is also the vice president of the Bank of Sturgeon Bay and has interests in various other enterprises. He has turned his attention to the horticultural development of Wisconsin, and with his partner, Mr. Rieboldt, and Henry Fetzer, is owner of an eighty acre orchard in Sturgeon Bay, conducted under the name of the Big Creek Orchard Company. They have demonstrated the possibilities of this section in fruit raising and have set the standard which many others have followed.

In May, 1879, Mr. Wolter was united in marriage to Miss Regina Sery of Milwaukee, who died in May, 1888. The three children of this marriage are: Agnes; Charles H., who wedded Emma Thomas; and Joseph G. In September, 1889, Mr. Wolter was again married, his second union being with Agnes Ferger, of Milwaukee, and their children are, Catherine, Eleanor, William, Regina, Cecelia, Aurelia, Genevieve and Henry. The parents are members of St. Joseph's Catholic church and Mr. Wolter has membership with the Knights of Columbus and also with the Catholic Knights of Wisconsin.

In the midst of the most active and useful business career Mr. Wolter has ever found time to perform his duties of citizenship. In fact he has always recognized the obligations as well as the privileges that have come to him as an American citizen, and he has done much to further public progress and improvement in many ways. In 1904 he was elected mayor of Sturgeon Bay on the democratic ticket, notwithstanding the usual republican vote was two to one, and reelection continued him in that office for eight years, a fact which is strongly indicative of the splendid administration which he gave to the city, characterized by many needed reforms and improvements and by the most thoroughly business-like methods. At the present time he is serving as chairman of the Utility Commission of Sturgeon Bay, and he is interested in all those forces and questions which have to do with the upbuilding and the welfare of city and state. His life has been one of persistent energy directed toward a given purpose. He has ever been actuated by laudable ambition and what he has undertaken he has accomplished.

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#### LOUIS GERONDALE.

A most progressive and energetic business man is Louis Gerondale, who is now manager of the Chaudoir Company, having charge of the store, the mill and the cheese factory at Brussels. His talents prove fully adequate to the demands made upon him and he enjoys in fullest measure the confidence of the company which he represents. He was born in Union township, this county,

June 20, 1893, a son of William and Josie (Geninnesse) Gerondale, the former a native of Union township, Door county, and the latter of Belgium. The paternal grandfather became one of the earliest settlers of Door county and soon after his arrival purchased eighty acres of land to which he added until he was owner of an excellent farm property of one hundred and twenty acres, upon which both he and his wife spent their remaining days. Their son, William Gerondale, was reared on the old homestead and pursued a district school education. He has always followed the occupation of farming and his has been an active, useful and well spent life. He has now reached the age of fifty years, while his wife is forty-six years of age. Numbered among the early residents of the county his memory goes back to the time when the countryside was heavily timbered and there were no roads, and many Indians still lived in the district and various kinds of wild game abounded.

Louis Gerondale spent his boyhood and youth in his parents' home in Union township, and his educational opportunities were those of the public schools, supplemented by study in the business college at Green Bay, where he received a thorough commercial training. He then accepted the position of bookkeeper with the Pierre-Virlee Company of Brussels, with which he continued for a year and a half. On leaving their employ he became connected with the Chaudoir Company of Brussels, with which he has since been associated. In 1915 the new company was formed, buying out the interests of the Pierre-Virlee Company, and since that time Mr. Gerondale has been one of the stockholders and the active manager, wisely directing the interests of the business, which has grown to extensive proportions. The company owns a store, a mill and a cheese factory, and their interests are most carefully conducted, thus bringing substantial financial returns.

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#### EUGENE ALEXANDER.

Eugene Alexander, who follows farming in Forestville township, was born in Union township, Door county, April 26, 1882, a son of Frank and Matilda (Lempeuer) Alexander. The father is a native of Belgium and when twelve years of age was brought by his parents to the United States, the family home being established in Chicago. After nine years' residence there they removed to Union township, Door county, where the grandfather of Eugene Alexander purchased a farm upon which he built a log house. This district was then largely an undeveloped wilderness. He had to clear his land before he could begin the work of plowing and planting, but in the course of time he developed a well improved farm and he is still living in the county at the age of eighty years, while his wife passed away when seventy years old. They never left the little pioneer cabin in which they began life in Door county, the grandfather still occupying the little log house which he originally built. The father, Frank Alexander, received forty acres of land as a gift from his father and thereon erected a frame dwelling. As the years have passed he has prospered in his undertakings and has added to his original place by purchase from time to time until he now has one hundred and sixty acres. He is now fifty-eight years of age, while his wife is fifty-six.

Eugene Alexander spent his boyhood days on the old home farm in Union township and when a lad of six began attending the district school. He assisted his father in clearing and developing the farm and had thorough training in all branches of farm work. He has never sought to change his occupation, feeling fully satisfied with farming interests, agreeing with George Washington, who more than a century ago said, "Farming is the most useful as well as the most honorable occupation of man." In 1913 he purchased his present farm in Forestville township of one hundred and ten acres and now has an excellent property upon which are good buildings and all modern equipments and accessories known to the model farm of the twentieth century. He is progressive in his methods and his labors result in the harvesting of good crops.

On October 26, 1909, Mr. Alexander was united in marriage to Miss Mary Englebert, a daughter of Philip and Julia Englebert, who were natives of Belgium. Mr. and Mrs. Alexander have five children: Frank, Rosa, Willie, Laura and Eddie. The family is well known in this county, the parents of Mr. Alexander having been among the earliest of the Belgian settlers of Union township, and throughout the intervening period the family have ever borne a reputation for industry and perseverance—qualities which have led to the substantial development of the district along agricultural lines.

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#### ALEXANDER M. LAURIE.

Alexander M. Laurie, bridge tender and collector for the city of Sturgeon Bay is one of the substantial citizens that Scotland has furnished to the new world and he displays many of the sterling characteristics of the people who come from the land of hills and heather. He was born in the city of Glasgow, March 17, 1853, a son of Robert and Catherine (Monroe) Laurie, who were also natives of Glasgow. In 1854 they left their native land and came with their family to the United States, settling first in Buffalo, New York. The father was a ship carpenter by trade and worked in the shipyards of Buffalo for about a year and a half. He then moved westward to Sturgeon Bay where he and his brother purchased timber land for shipbuilding, worked on their own account and also built docks. They were the builders of a passenger and freight boat with which they sailed Sturgeon Bay and Green Bay for many years. The brother was drowned, however, in 1868. Robert Laurie also built two other vessels and engaged in cultivating his land, transforming the property into a good farm. He also developed a stone quarry and there he continued to reside throughout his remaining days, operating the stone quarry for thirty-five years. He was a very energetic man and his well spent life won him not only a substantial competence but also the goodwill and respect of those who knew him. He died in 1890, while his widow, long surviving him, passed away in 1906.

Alexander M. Laurie is indebted to the public school system of Door county for the educational opportunities which he enjoyed, for he was only two years old when his parents removed with their family to this section of the state. He began sailing on the lakes and at the age of seventeen years became captain of a sailing vessel, the schooner Katie Laurie, which his father built. In 1880 he took

out steamboat captain papers and was commander of a steamboat on the Great Lakes until 1904. In partnership with his brother John he also owned the steamboat, John Evenson, and the schooners, W. B. Shaddick, and S. B. Page. In 1904 he disposed of his boats and removed to his land in Sevastopol township, which he continued to develop and cultivate seventeen years. He then sold out and came to Sturgeon Bay where he purchased a home and accepted the position as bridge tender or toll collector for the city. He has since served in that capacity and has been loyal to his duties and prompt and faithful in the discharge of the work intrusted to him.

In February, 1881, Mr. Laurie was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Gilmore, a daughter of H. L. and Hester (Scofield) Gilmore, who were natives of New York and were pioneer settlers of Racine county, Wisconsin. The father was a farmer and successfully followed that occupation there. He became a prominent and respected citizen of the district, which he represented in the state legislature. He died in 1896, while his wife survived until 1905. In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Laurie are four children: Robert M., a ship carpenter residing at Sturgeon Bay; Clifford, a fireman on the government tug, Manitowoc; Clyde, who was formerly engaged in newspaper work but has enlisted for service in the war against Germany; and Esther, the wife of Emil Hanson, who is living in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

Mr. Laurie has given his children good educational opportunities and he has served as school treasurer of Sevastopol township for a number of years. Fraternally he is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and his religious faith is that of the Methodist Episcopal church. Politically he is a republican, having given staunch support to the party since attaining his majority. He is always loyal to the best interests of the community and his influence is given on the side of right, progress and improvement.

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### JOSEPH STAUBER.

Joseph Stauber, an agriculturist residing on section 34, Nasewaupee township, has lived in Door county during the past third of a century and aided in the pioneer development and upbuilding of the district. His birth occurred in Bohemia, Austria, on the 8th of August, 1854, and there he spent the first thirty years of his life. In 1884 he crossed the Atlantic to the United States and made his way to Door county, Wisconsin, here working for some winters in the woods. Eventually he purchased eighty acres of land on section 34, Nasewaupee township, and began the arduous task of clearing away the timber. He also made substantial improvements on the property and now has a well developed and productive farm which returns to him a gratifying annual income.

Mr. Stauber married Mrs. Louise Goetz, by whom he has four children, namely: Joseph, of Nasewaupee township, who was born May 22, 1887; George, whose birth occurred May 23, 1889, and who is at home; Alphonse, who was born in 1891 and died in infancy; and Arlicks, whose natal day was September 8, 1893, and who is a resident of Brodhead, Wisconsin. By her first husband Mrs. Stauber

also had four children, as follows: Anna; Mary, living in Washington; Rosa, who also resides in Washington; and Aggia, who makes her home in Indiana.

Mr. Stauber is a democrat in his political views but at local elections casts an independent ballot, supporting the candidate whom he believes best qualified. He assisted in building the first Catholic church at Sturgeon Bay but now belongs to the Catholic church at Maplewood and is also a member of the Knights of Columbus. He has never regretted his determination to come to the new world, for here he found the opportunities which he sought and has won a place among the substantial and esteemed citizens of his community.

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### JUDGE JACOB DEHOS.

Fifty-three years have been added to the cycle of the centuries since Judge Jacob Dehos became a resident of Door county and for more than fourteen years he has continuously served as county judge, the fairness and impartiality of his decisions on the bench being indicated by his frequent reelections. He had previously filled various other local offices and his official record is one above censure or reproach. A native of Germany, he was born on the 1st of August, 1848, a son of Philip Jacob and Philipina (Schaefer) Dehos. The father died in Germany in 1861 and in 1864 the mother came with her family to the new world, making her way at once to the town of Nasewaupee, where her brother Philip had taken up his abode in 1856 and was devoting his attention to farming. Mrs. Dehos purchased land and her children assisted in clearing, developing and improving the farm. There were five sons and two daughters in the family: Elizabeth, who is now the widow of Thomas O'Neil and a resident of Oregon; Jacob; Mary, the wife of John Race, living in Oconto county, Wisconsin; Philip, a retired farmer residing at Sawyer; Martin, who is police justice in Sturgeon Bay; Adam, deceased; and John, who died at the age of six years.

Judge Dehos acquired his education in the schools of Germany and when a youth of sixteen accompanied his mother on her emigration to the new world. He became an active factor in clearing the home farm and developing the fields and after devoting several years to general agricultural pursuits he turned his attention to the manufacture of boots and shoes, that being his trade, and opened a shoe store in Sturgeon Bay in connection with his shoe shop. In the '80s he was elected justice of the peace, which position he filled for twenty-six years. During that period he also served as city clerk for three years, for one term as city assessor and for one term city treasurer. He also served as register of deeds for six years and in all these various positions was found prompt and reliable in the discharge of his duties. The splendid record which he made as justice of the peace led to his selection for the office of county judge. He was elected in 1901 and took his place upon the bench in January, 1902. He has been elected at each succeeding election since that time, so that he is now serving for the fifteenth year, having been county judge for a longer period than any other incumbent in the office in Door county, his present term to continue until 1920. His decisions are strictly fair and impartial, being based upon the law and the equity in the case.

In 1869 Judge Dehos was united in marriage to Miss Annie M. Bottelson, who was born in Bergen, Norway, a daughter of Arne and Louise Bottelson. The father became a resident of this county in 1864 and was joined by his family in 1868. Judge and Mrs. Dehos have become the parents of ten children: Augusta, Louisa, Philip and Celia, all of whom died in infancy; Eva, who was a school teacher and died at the age of twenty-eight years; Agatha, the wife of Ellis Klinkenberg, of Sturgeon Bay, who is steward on the steamer Venezuela and by whom she had three children; John, who was also a school teacher and died at the age of twenty-three years; Celia, the wife of S. A. Solway, the first mate on the steamer Lyman B. Smith and a resident of Sevastopol township; Mae, at home; and Edith, the wife of A. E. Cofrin, of Green Bay, superintendent of the Northern Paper Mills.

Judge Dehos is well known in Masonic circles, belonging to Henry S. Baird Lodge, No. 211, F. & A. M., of which he served as master for six years. He also has membership in the chapter and council and he is likewise identified with the Knights of Pythias. In politics he is a republican where national issues are involved but at local elections casts an independent ballot.

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#### RICHARD P. CODY.

Among the substantial citizens of Sturgeon Bay whom death has called and whose passing leaves a place in the ranks that has been hard to fill was Richard P. Cody, who for many years was actively identified with the practice of law as a most prominent and skilled attorney and who also figured in connection with banking interests of his city. In all that he undertook he was very successful, his life being characterized by a spirit of enterprise and progress that brought splendid results. Mr. Cody was born in Ireland in August, 1863, a son of Philip and Mary Cody, who were also natives of the Emerald isle. Coming to America in early life they settled in Wisconsin, the father taking up the occupation of farming in Manitowoc county, where Richard P. Cody was reared and educated. After completing his public school course he took up the profession of teaching in order to earn money which would enable him to pursue a course in law. He began reading law with Judge William J. Turner of Milwaukee, and when he had prepared for the bar and was admitted to practice, he came to Sturgeon Bay, where he opened an office and entered at once upon the active work of the profession. Here he spent his remaining days. He was a very successful lawyer and became a very well liked man. In the trial of cases he was earnest and convincing. He prepared his cases with great thoroughness and care, was logical in his reasoning and sound in his deductions. The court records therefore bear testimony to many favorable verdicts which he won. He several times served as district attorney and made an excellent record in that position. He was also the president and vice president and attorney of the Bank of Sturgeon Bay and in all matters of business investment his judgment was sound and his discernment keen.

In June, 1888, Mr. Cody was united in marriage to Miss Sadie E. Marsh, a daughter of George L. and Elizabeth (Moore) Marsh, who were natives of Ohio



RICHARD P. CODY





and New York respectively. The father, who was a travelling salesman for many years, died on the 5th of March, 1897, and after his death his widow removed to Sturgeon Bay, making her home throughout the remainder of her life with her daughter Mrs. Cody, her death occurring December 15, 1905. Mrs. Cody was an only child and was born in Sheboygan, Wisconsin. She became the mother of but one child, Irene M., who was born in April, 1889, and died in August, 1912, at the age of twenty-three years, her death being a great blow to her mother and to the many friends whom she left behind. Mr. Cody passed away after a short illness March 4, 1908, at the age of fifty-five years, and his demise was the occasion of deep and widespread regret. He had been reared in the Catholic faith but afterward attended the Congregational church. He belonged to the Knights of Pythias Lodge and he gave his political support to the democratic party. His was an active, useful and honorable life, fraught with good deeds and crowned by successful accomplishment. He never deviated from a course which he believed to be right between himself and his fellowmen and his many sterling traits of character gained him a most enviable position in popular regard.

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#### PATRICK H. MAHONEY.

Patrick H. Mahoney, one of the most prominent and influential citizens of Sevastopol township, has spent his entire life in Door county, his birth occurring in the township where he still resides March 25, 1872. His parents, Michael and Johanna (Sweeney) Mahoney, were both natives of Ireland, but in early life removed to Canada, where they were married and continued to reside for about ten years thereafter. At the end of that time they came to Wisconsin and the father purchased a farm in Sevastopol township, Door county, and to its improvement and cultivation devoted his time until 1911, when he sold the place and has since lived retired in the town of Sevastopol. His wife also survives.

To this worthy couple were born fourteen children, ten of whom survive, namely: Mary, now Mrs. Dennis Short, of the Black Hills of South Dakota; Catherine, the wife of Timothy Cullnan, of St. Agnes, Michigan; Nellie, the wife of John Reis, of Vulean, Michigan; Patrick H., of this review; Michael, a resident of Iron Mountain, Michigan; William, of Chicago, Illinois; Delia, the wife of John Morrow, of New York city; Julia, the wife of Napoleon Vane, of Rapid River, Michigan; Martin, residing in the Black Hills of South Dakota; and Johanna, the wife of George Fischer, of Chicago. Margaret, the oldest of the family, became the wife of Owen Collins, of Rapid River, Michigan, and is now deceased. Her remains were interred in the cemetery of St. Peter's and St. Paul's church in Sevastopol township, this county. She left two children, Mrs. Charles Laden and Mrs. Frank Laden, both of Chicago. Sarah married Hiram Mills, of Waukegan, Illinois, and at her death was laid to rest in the cemetery of St. Peter's and St. Paul's church. She left three children, who are living with their father in Waukegan. In the family were also two sons who died in infancy.

Patrick H. Mahoney grew to manhood upon his father's farm and during his boyhood and youth assisted in the labors of the fields and also attended the public schools until sixteen years of age. He remained with his father until he had

attained his majority and then worked for others as a farm hand until twenty-five years of age. In the meantime he had acquired some capital and was able to purchase the east half of the northwest quarter of section 7, Sevastopol township, which he cleared and improved, and has since successfully engaged in farming thereon. On the 1st of October, 1902, he was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Goss, a daughter of Peter and Catherine Goss, who came to this country from Ireland and were pioneers of Baileys Harbor. Her mother died and was buried at that place but her father is still living and now makes his home in Chicago. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Mahoney are Eva, Helen, Josephine, William, Edward and Michael, all at home.

In religious faith the family are Catholics and are communicants of St. Peter's and St. Paul's church. Mr. Mahoney has always taken a very active and prominent part in public affairs and is now serving as chairman of the county board of supervisors, having been a member of that body for three terms. He has been township assessor for seven years and is also serving his third term as a member of the township board. He helped to organize a company of the National Guard and has always given his support to every enterprise which he believed would prove of benefit to his county, state or nation. He is a director of the Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company and the success which he has attained in life is due to his own well directed efforts.

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#### OTTO NELSON.

Otto Nelson, of Sturgeon Bay, who is filling the office of register of deeds, is one of the native sons of the county, his birth having occurred at Garrett Bay, Liberty Grove township, June 17, 1887, his parents being Andrew and Elsie Marie (Madson) Nelson, both of whom were natives of Denmark. The latter came to Door county with her mother and stepfather, Thomas Christenson, in 1868, when a little maiden of eight summers, the family home being established in Liberty Grove township. Andrew Nelson arrived in the United States in 1871 and came to this county about 1874. He first gave his attention to general farming but afterward began dealing in wood and lumber. He also had a store at Garrett Bay and a stone quarry there and was thus actively and extensively connected with business development in that part of the county. He was born May 30, 1851, and passed away July 27, 1909. His wife, who was born February 14, 1860, is still living. She now conducts a fine hotel at Garrett Bay for summer tourists, having accommodations for forty-eight people. This is an attractive resort, affording good fishing and other means of entertainment. They had a family of nine children, of whom three still survive: Otto; Alma, who is the widow of Percy Spalsbury and resides in Sturgeon Bay; and Ella, at home.

The public school privileges of Door county were those which Otto Nelson enjoyed in his early youth, and while still quite young he devoted his time to both farming and fishing. Later he was connected with the life-saving station at South Chicago and for two and a half years he was employed in Kenosha, Wisconsin, at the Simmons bed factory. In 1908 he returned to Sturgeon Bay and became assistant to his father, who was filling the office of register of deeds. The father

served for three complete terms and seven months of another term in that position and for many years he was township chairman of the republican party, to which he always gave earnest support. Upon the death of his father Otto Nelson was appointed to fill out the unexpired term and has three times been elected to the position, so that father and son altogether have served for seven terms in the office.

On the 9th of December, 1911, Mr. Nelson was married to Miss Ethel J. Minor, a daughter of the Hon. Edward S. Minor, former member of congress. They have two children, John Minor and Graham Marshall, aged respectively four and one years.

Mr. Nelson belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternity. He is well known in this part of the state and has admirable qualities which not only render him a very efficient officer but also a popular citizen. In the discharge of his duties he is thoroughly reliable, is prompt and systematic, and his reelection attests the unqualified confidence reposed in him.

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#### FRANK WELLEVER.

Frank Wellever, a resident of Sturgeon Bay, filling the office of clerk of the court of Door county, was born in Hornellsville, New York, now called Hornell, on the 28th of June, 1856, a son of Michael and Mary (Amidon) Wellever, who were natives of Pennsylvania and of Connecticut respectively, although their marriage was celebrated in the Empire state. The father died in New York in 1865 and the mother afterward became the wife of Ephraim C. Truman, who brought his family to Wisconsin in 1869, settling in Lima, Rock county, whence he removed to Door county in 1875. Here he engaged in the stove business. For two years he lived in Outagamie county before coming to Door county. The death of Mrs. Truman occurred at Egg Harbor, Wisconsin, in 1891.

Frank Wellever acquired a public school education in the east and from the time of his removal to Wisconsin depended upon his own resources for a livelihood. At length he began farming at Egg Harbor, where he rented land for a time until his earnings had brought him sufficient capital to purchase a farm. It was in 1891 that he invested in land, which he continued to cultivate and improve until 1911, when he sold that property.

In the meantime Mr. Wellever had been called to public office. He served as justice of the peace at Egg Harbor for many years and in 1887 he was elected chairman of the board of county supervisors. He served altogether for twenty-one years on the county board and was a most active and efficient worker for the public interests, at all times exercising his official prerogatives for the general good. In 1911 he served as county highway commissioner and in 1912 he was elected clerk of the court for a two years' term and in 1914 was reelected to that position, which he is now capably filling.

On the 28th of December, 1879, Mr. Wellever was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Le Roy, a daughter of William and Almira (Post) Le Roy, who were early settlers of Door county, arriving in the '50s. They were married on Washington Island and Mr. Le Roy followed the occupation of farming in order to provide for

his family. Mr. and Mrs. Wellever became the parents of eight children: Mary, who is the wife of Henry Copisky, of Baileys Harbor, Wisconsin, and has a family of five children; Kate, who is the wife of A. J. Chapman, of Marinette county, Wisconsin, and the mother of three children; Roy, of Marinette, who is married and has one child; Georgia, the wife of Ned Chapman, of Marinette, by whom she has two children; Cora, the wife of Claude Gard, of Egg Harbor, and the mother of three children; and Duane, William and Lillian, all at home. The wife and mother passed away in 1911, her death being deeply deplored by many friends, who had learned to esteem her for her sterling worth.

Mr. Wellever belongs to the Knights of Pythias. His political endorsement has always been given to the republican party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise and he keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day. His official record is a commendable one, for at all times he has been thoroughly loyal to the interests entrusted to his care and has used his official prerogatives to further public interests rather than personal welfare.

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### THOMAS MELVILLE.

For almost half a century Thomas Melville has been a resident of Door county, and throughout his active business life has been identified with the agricultural interests of this region. His early home was on the other side of the Atlantic, for he was born in County Cork, Ireland, March 31, 1856, a son of Thomas and Margaret (Cole) Melville, in whose family were two children, but the older, Joseph, died at the age of two years. The father, who was a farmer by occupation, died in Ireland in 1856 and in 1862 the mother, accompanied by her little son, crossed the ocean to the United States and for about eight years lived in Chicago, where our subject attended school. In 1869 they came to Door county, Wisconsin, where Mrs. Melville's uncle, William Cole, had located some time previously and had taken up a claim in Sevastopol township. After living with him for a short time Mrs. Melville married Jacob Crass, who was one of the oldest settlers of this region, having homesteaded here in 1856. He became the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of land in the south half of section 27, Sevastopol township. Mr. Crass died in 1893 and for the following four years his widow lived with the Crass children and then made her home with our subject until she, too, passed away in 1899, being laid to rest in Bayside cemetery.

After his mother's second marriage Mr. Melville aided his stepfather in the cultivation and improvement of the home farm until his marriage in 1878, and then purchased forty acres of land constituting the northwest quarter of the northeast quarter of section 34, Sevastopol township. He cleared and improved this place and resided thereon for nineteen years, but at the end of that time sold out and assumed charge of the Jacob Crass farm. He is still living on that place and now owns the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter and the north half of the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter and the north half of the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of section 27, Sevastopol township. He has a well improved place and has met with success in his farming operations. In December, 1915, a fire destroyed his home, which he has since rebuilt.

Mr. Melville was married in 1878 to Miss Eliza Walker, a daughter of John



THOMAS MELVILLE AND FAMILY



and Elizabeth Walker, who were old settlers of Door county, her father's estate being the first to be probated in this county. Both parents are now deceased and Mr. Walker was buried in Nasewaupsee cemetery, while Mrs. Walker was buried in the Bayside cemetery. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Melville are as follows: John, now a resident of West Allis, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; William, of Spokane, Washington; Eliza, the wife of John Rice, of Lone Lake, Idaho; James, of Manitowoc, Wisconsin; Joseph, who assists his father in the operation of the home farm; David, of Manitowoc; and three who died in infancy. Joseph married Minnie Moeller, a daughter of Robert Moeller of Liberty Grove, and she died leaving three children, Margaret, Dorothy and Mae.

In religious faith Mr. Melville is a Methodist and his life has ever been in harmony with the teachings of that church. For ten years he has efficiently served as justice of the peace and has also held the position of health officer for twelve years. In early life he supported the republican party but now casts his ballot with the prohibition party, being a strong temperance man. He has always been a hard worker and has ever borne his part in the upbuilding and development of this region. He is a man who commands the respect and confidence of all with whom he has been brought in contact, and during his long residence in Door county has made a host of warm friends.

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#### KARL SCHULTZ.

Karl Schultz, who is actively engaged in farming on section 34, Egg Harbor township, owns an excellent property of one hundred and twenty acres, which he has brought to a high state of cultivation, and to which he has added many modern improvements and equipments. He has remained continuously upon this place since he was fourteen years of age. He was born in Germany, June 13, 1872, a son of Fred and Fredericka (Sunda) Schultz, who were natives of Germany, where the father worked as a laborer. On coming to America he resided in Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin, for five years and then purchased a farm in Egg Harbor township, Door county. This he improved and cultivated throughout his remaining days, becoming one of the substantial agriculturists of the community. He died in 1903, while his widow survived until March, 1915.

Karl Schultz attended school for two years in Germany. He was a lad of nine years when his parents came with their family to the new world, so that he resumed his education in the schools of Door county. He came to his present farm with his father, whom he continued to assist in the development and improvement of the place, and when he had attained his majority his father willed him eighty acres of land on section 34, Egg Harbor township. To this he has added by purchase and is now the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of rich and arable land, which he has carefully and persistently cultivated, making it a valuable farm. His labors have wrought a marked transformation in the appearance of the place. Not only has he cultivated the fields in the production of crops but has also engaged in dairying, milking eleven cows. He has added many modern improvements to his farm and in 1904 erected a fine, two story, brick residence in the rear of which stand good barns and other outbuildings necessary for the

shelter of grain and stock. These in turn are surrounded by well kept fields and rich pastures, and the farm is bringing to him substantial success.

On the 13th of June, 1893, Mr. Schultz was married to Miss Minnie Volkman, a daughter of Carl and Lena (Schultz) Volkman, who were natives of Germany. The father came to America about 1887 and settled in Door county, Wisconsin, purchasing land in Egg Harbor township, which he is still cultivating. His wife passed away in Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Schultz have become the parents of eleven children, namely: Annie, Elza, Adeline, Olga, Edna, Arthur, Agnes, Marvel, Erving, Ernest and Neta.

Mr. Schultz votes with the republican party, which he has supported since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He has filled the position of supervisor of Egg Harbor township and also was road supervisor. He is interested in all that pertains to public welfare and he is a stockholder in the Door County News of Sturgeon Bay. His religious belief is that of the Lutheran church, to which he gives loyal aid and generous support. Almost his entire life has been spent in this county and those who know him entertain for him warm regard.

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#### LANSING R. STEPHENSON.

Lansing R. Stephenson, who is living retired in Sturgeon Bay, was for many years successfully engaged in farming and through the wise management of his interests accumulated a competence. His birth occurred in Victoria, Ontario county, New York, September 14, 1843, but his parents, Henry and Mary Ann (Sanderson) Stephenson, were both natives of Hull, England, where they were reared and married. It was in 1834 that they emigrated to America, locating in Canada, whence they subsequently removed to Ontario county, New York. There the father purchased a farm which he operated until 1857, when he came west with his family, arriving in Door county on the 4th of July. On the 16th of the following October the mother passed away and was buried in Bayside cemetery. The eldest son, John B. Stephenson, homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres on section 27, Sevastopol township, and in 1858 deeded the place to the father, who with the help of his sons cleared and improved it. He resided thereon until 1870, when he retired and took up his abode with his son Septimus in Sturgeon Bay, there remaining until his death in 1873. His remains were also interred in the Bayside cemetery.

Lansing R. Stephenson entered the public schools in his native town at the usual age and continued therein until he had acquired a good common school education. After the removal of the family to Door county he assisted his father in clearing and operating his farm and when the latter retired Mr. Stephenson of this review received title to the place. At the outbreak of the Civil war he enlisted in Company C, Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, having gone to that state to work in the harvest fields. He served throughout the war and took part in many of the most important engagements of the Union army. When peace was restored he returned to his home farm in Door county, continuing, as before stated, to work with his father until 1870. For the following three years he operated the place independently, but in the fall of 1873 he rented the farm and removed to Scott township, Brown county, Wisconsin, in order to take



charge of a farm belonging to his wife's parents. He remained there until 1881 and then came again to Door county and took up his residence upon his homestead. For more than a third of a century his time and energy were devoted to the cultivation of his fields and the care of his stock and he so carefully managed his affairs that his resources steadily increased with the passing of the years. On the 18th of April, 1917, he retired from active life and removed to Sturgeon Bay, where he has since enjoyed a well deserved leisure.

Mr. Stephenson was married on the 2d of January, 1872, to Miss Anna E. Gibson, a daughter of Robert and Anna (Mahone) Gibson, natives of Scotland and early settlers of Brown county, Wisconsin, where both passed away. To Mr. and Mrs. Stephenson were born two children: Cora, who married Charles Holmes, of Sturgeon Bay; and Robert R., of Sevastopol township, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work. The wife and mother died in May, 1885, and is buried in the Bay Settlement cemetery at Scott, Brown county. In 1889 Mr. Stephenson was united in marriage to Miss Nettie Root, of Baileys Harbor, whose demise occurred April 10, 1890. Her remains were interred in the Bayside cemetery. In 1891 Mr. Stephenson wedded Miss Ella Root, a sister of his second wife, and they became the parents of three children: Lillian, now Mrs. John Walker, of Sevastopol township; Howard, who resides in Sturgeon Bay; and Thomas, who is farming in Sevastopol township. Mrs. Stephenson passed away September 16, 1897, and was buried in the Bayside cemetery. On the 10th of October, 1899, Mr. Stephenson married Mrs. Anna Jensen, the widow of Henry Jensen, of Clay Banks township.

Mr. Stephenson is quite prominent in the local ranks of the republican party and has served as justice of the peace for twenty years, while for three terms he held the office of township assessor. He was also school clerk for a long period of time and has likewise served as president of the Door County Agricultural Society for a number of years. He is convinced that a greater degree of co-operation among farmers would be very much to their advantage and held the office of president of the Farmers Mutual Insurance Company of Sevastopol township for several years. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Methodist church. When he came to Door county he had no money but was determined to succeed and persevered in spite of many obstacles and hardships. There were not only the usual inconveniences of pioneer life due to sparse settlement and lack of communication with older regions, but the land was heavily timbered, which fact entailed a great deal of hard work before the soil could be brought under cultivation. His purpose never wavered, however, and in the course of years his unremitting industry brought its reward and he now ranks with the substantial men of the county.

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#### ALBERT J. KREITZER, M. D.

Dr. Albert J. Kreitzer, an alumnus of Rush Medical College of Chicago and an active general medical practitioner at Sawyer since 1896, was born in Germany, March 15, 1858, a son of John and Matilda (Schroeder) Kreitzer, who were also natives of Germany, where the father passed away. The mother afterward brought her son Albert to the United States in 1869 and settled at Milwaukee,

Wisconsin, where she became the wife of Fred Boening, who departed this life in Milwaukee in 1898. Mrs. Boening passed away in Green Bay in 1915.

Dr. Kreitzer was a youth of eleven years when brought by his mother to the new world and here he supplemented his early education, acquired in the schools of Germany, by study in the public schools of Milwaukee. Later he attended the Whitewater (Wis.) Normal School, from which he was graduated in 1882, and being thus well qualified for teaching, he entered upon the work of that profession, which he followed for eleven years. He was then elected to the position of county superintendent of schools in Ozaukee county and filled the position for four years. He became imbued, however, with the desire to enter upon other professional labor, thinking that he might find a broader scope elsewhere. Accordingly in 1893 he matriculated in Rush Medical College of Chicago, in which he pursued the regular three years' course and was graduated in 1896. He then came to Sawyer, where he has since remained, devoting his time and energies to the general practice of medicine, in which connection he has made an excellent record. Dr. Kreitzer has also been identified with business interests as president of the Sawyer Bank, which position he occupied for several years.

In 1881 occurred the marriage of Dr. Kreitzer and Miss Mary J. Anderson, a native of Grafton, Wisconsin, and a daughter of Soren and Kirsten Anderson. The children of this marriage are four daughters, who are talented ladies. Adelia, the eldest, is a graduate of the Appleton (Wis.) Conservatory of Music and of the Nurses' Hospital at Milwaukee and is now winning success as a trained nurse. Ellen is the wife of E. V. Clark, a resident of California. Nellie is a graduate of the Milwaukee Normal School and is now devoting her attention to teaching. For five years she was superintendent of the kindergarten department of the schools of Neenah, Wisconsin. Augusta, the youngest of the family, is a graduate of the Appleton Conservatory of Music and is now attending the State University. The parents are consistent members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, in the work of which they take an active interest. In politics Dr. Kreitzer is a republican and in 1912 was nominated by his party for the position of state senator but was defeated. He served as city physician of Sturgeon Bay from 1898 until 1902 and he belongs to the County, the Fox River Valley, the Wisconsin State and the American Medical Associations. Study, reading and research keep him informed concerning the progress that has been made in the medical profession and he is quick to adopt any new methods or agencies that he believes will prove of real benefit in his practice. He manifests the utmost conscientiousness in the performance of his professional duties and colleagues and contemporaries speak of him in terms of high regard.

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#### HERMAN R. BUSSE.

Herman R. Busse, who follows farming in Forestville township, his home being on section 7, is numbered among the native sons of Wisconsin, his birth having occurred in Herman township, Sheboygan county, on the 15th of June, 1882. His parents were August and Caroline (Rehm) Busse. The parents were born in Lippe-Detmold, Germany, where they were reared and married, and in 1870 they came to the United States, establishing their home in Sheboygan county.

Wisconsin, where Mr. Busse purchased a farm. The tract of land which he acquired was covered with a growth of native forest trees which he had to clear away before the land was prepared for the plow. There were still some Indians in the neighborhood and other evidences of pioneer life and conditions. Upon that place Mr. Busse remained until 1887, when he purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land on section 7, Forestville township, Door county, constituting the farm upon which his son Herman now resides. This tract had been burned over at the time of the great fire. There was a log house on the place but as soon as possible the father erected a more modern and commodious dwelling and he continued to occupy the farm until his demise, which occurred in 1896, when he was sixty years of age. His wife is still living at the age of seventy-two years. His political allegiance was given to the democratic party but he never sought nor desired office. His entire time was given to his business affairs and in 1889 he built a cheese factory, which he operated in connection with the conduct of his farm.

Herman R. Busse spent his youthful days on the old homestead and eventually came into possession of the property, which comprises one hundred and twenty acres of rich and productive land that responds readily to the care and cultivation which he bestows upon it. He works diligently to make his land produce the best possible crops, practices rotation and has introduced many improved modern methods in the care of his fields.

In 1914 Mr. Busse was united in marriage to Miss Clara Freitag, a daughter of Joseph and Jennie (Beening) Freitag, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Chicago. Mrs. Busse was also born in Chicago and by her marriage has become the mother of a daughter, Helen. Mr. and Mrs. Busse are widely and favorably known in Forestville township and have a large circle of warm friends who esteem them for their genuine worth.

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#### HERMAN A. TAUBE, JR.

Herman A. Taube, Jr., living on section 33, Sturgeon Bay township, is engaged with his father and brother in the cultivation of an excellent farm of two hundred acres. He was born in this county January 5, 1887, a son of Herman Taube, Sr., whose birth occurred in Bremen, Germany, on the 14th of February, 1841. He there resided until twenty-eight years of age, when he crossed the Atlantic and became a resident of Door county. Here he purchased eighty acres of land and as prosperity attended his undertakings he added to his holdings by the purchase of a tract of one hundred and twenty acres. He cleared his land with the assistance of his two sons, added fine improvements thereto and continued to actively cultivate his fields for many years but at length put aside the more arduous cares of farm life and removed to Sawyer, where he now makes his home. He was at one time a stockholder of the Farmers Union and also of the Farmers Elevator Company. In community affairs he has taken quite a deep and helpful interest. For years he served as treasurer of District No. 5 and he cooperated in many plans and movements for the upbuilding of his section of the county. His political allegiance has always been given to the republican party since he became a

naturalized American citizen. His religious faith is that of the German Methodist Episcopal church and he has guided his life according to its teachings.

It was in 1871 that Mr. Taube was united in marriage to Miss Emila Silka, who was born in Germany in 1850. They have become the parents of eight children: Minnie, the wife of William Fick, a resident of Chicago; Dora, the wife of Henry Goettelman, of Sawyer; Emma, the wife of George E. Ellis, of Saskatchewan, Canada; Gussie, the wife of Alfred Wulf, of Sawyer; Herman A.; Lydia, the wife of George Draeb, of Sturgeon Bay; Albert, living in Sawyer; and Henry, who completes the family.

The two sons, Herman and Henry Taube, enjoyed the educational advantages offered by the common schools and for two years Henry worked in Chicago. They afterward became associated with their father in the conduct and management of the home farm, which they actively aided in clearing, developing and improving. Their practical experience well qualified them to take charge of the farm when their father retired and they are now busily engaged in its further development and improvement.

On the 20th of November, 1912, Herman A. Taube, Jr., was united in marriage to Miss Louise Saaler, of Sturgeon Bay. Their home is a hospitable one, its good cheer being greatly appreciated by their many friends. In business circles the brothers occupy an enviable position and high regard is entertained for them by all with whom they have been brought in contact.

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#### HON. EDWARD S. MINOR.

Hon. Edward S. Minor is now living retired in a beautiful residence in Sturgeon Bay. There, in a congenial environment, he is spending his days, resting from the arduous labors which have hitherto occupied his time and attention, for he has been a most active man, not only in business circles, but as one of the lawmakers of the state and nation, having long served in the legislature and in congress, during which time he has been instrumental in promoting valuable merchant marine legislation. He was born in Jefferson county, New York, December 13, 1841, a son of Martin and Abigail J. (St. Ores) Minor. He comes from an old family of English descent, founded in America during the first half of the seventeenth century. Of this family the first governor of Connecticut was a member. Various generations of the family were represented in that state, but the great-grandfather removed from Connecticut to New York, where his son, Roe Minor, was born. For many years he lived in Jefferson county, New York, and it was there that the birth of Martin Minor occurred. In early life he learned the trade of ship calking and in 1845 he removed with his family to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he followed his trade until 1850, when he became a resident of Sheboygan.

In the spring of 1858 his son, Edward S. Minor, started for Door county and on the 1st of April reached Baileys Harbor, from which point he walked across the county to Fish Creek when the snow was four feet deep on the level. In July of that year the father brought his family and took up a half section of government land at Fish Creek. He then engaged in farming and also got out



HON. EDWARD S. MINOR



cord wood. Clearing away the timber, he brought his fields under cultivation, the family experiencing all the hardships and privations incident to frontier life. At that period there was not a doctor or a lawyer in Door county. Martin Minor took an active part in establishing the early schools and in furthering the work of progress and civilization along many lines. In politics he was a stalwart republican. In their family were four sons and a daughter: Edward S.; Elvira, the deceased wife of Ingham Kinzie, of Fish Creek; Alfred, living at Green Bay; Augustine A., of Sturgeon Bay; and Grant, who is a steamboat captain residing at Sturgeon Bay.

Edward S. Minor acquired a public school education in Milwaukee and Sheboygan and was a youth of sixteen years when he made the trip to this county preceding the arrival of the family. He then bore his part in the arduous task of developing and improving a new farm and in 1861, when nineteen years of age, he responded to the country's call for military aid, enlisting as a member of Company G, Second Wisconsin Cavalry. He was among the first to leave Door county for the front and served for four years, being mustered out with the rank of first lieutenant, although he was in command of the company on account of the illness of the captain. He served for two years in the southwest, in Indian Territory and in Arkansas, and his later service was down the Mississippi. He was mustered out at Austin, Texas, under General George A. Custer, and returned to his home with a most creditable military record.

Mr. Minor on again reaching Door county once more took up agricultural pursuits and in 1867 he was married to Miss Tillie A. Graham, a daughter of Oliver Perry and Mary Ann (Marshall) Graham. Her father was one of the pioneer settlers of this section of the state and built the first lumber mill in Sturgeon Bay. Abandoning farm work, Mr. Minor turned his attention to merchandising at Fish Creek and also was engaged in getting out timber and forest products of all kinds. He continued in business there until 1882, when he sold out and removed to Sturgeon Bay, where he established a hardware store, but in 1884 his store was destroyed by fire. At that time he was made superintendent of the Sturgeon Bay & Lake Michigan Ship Canal, which position he filled for seven years. He also operated a tug for towing vessels through the canal. In 1886 he began dealing in stone, contracting for stone at various points along Lake Michigan, and to that business he directed his attention until 1894, when he went to Washington, having been elected to congress.

Mr. Minor has had much to do with shaping public thought and action in Door county and in the state and has left the impress of his individuality upon much constructive legislation, which has been of great value to the people of the commonwealth. In the fall of 1877 he was elected on the republican ticket to the state assembly and while thus serving gave hearty support to the legislation necessary for the building of the Sturgeon Bay & Lake Michigan Ship Canal. In 1879 he was reelected to the general assembly and again in 1880, while in 1882 he was chosen to represent his district in the state senate for a four years' term and during the last two years was president pro tem. He gave thoughtful and earnest consideration to many vital questions which came up for settlement and which had direct bearing upon the welfare and progress of the state. In 1894 he was elected to congress, in which he took his seat in December, 1895, entering upon a congressional experience that covered twelve years, for he was five times reelected

to that position. He served on the merchant marine committee and was very active in promoting that branch of legislation, for he based his knowledge upon practical experience and study. He acted as chairman of the committee much of the time and he took a great interest in all questions relating to rivers and harbors and is directly responsible for many harbor improvements along the lake shore in this district. He enjoyed the confidence and was frequently called into consultation by the leaders at Washington, including the president, and he became a close friend of Theodore Roosevelt. He served on the merchant marine commission, which traveled throughout the entire country and is acknowledged to have accomplished the greatest work of the kind.

The family of Mr. and Mrs. Minor numbered six children: Stanton, who acted as private secretary to his father in Washington for twelve years and is now assistant postmaster at Sturgeon Bay; Byron A., who is in charge of the Southern Pacific Bath House at Redlands, California, and is general superintendent of the properties of the railroad at that point; Sybil, who became the wife of Charles A. Elwell, of Boston, and is now a widow, living in Milwaukee; Maude, the wife of Oscar Knudtson, of Milwaukee; Ula, the wife of Ralph Frank, connected with mercantile interests in Milwaukee; and Ethel, the wife of Otto Nelson, who is register of deeds in Door county. The second son is a retired lieutenant of the navy.

Mr. Minor and his wife occupy a most beautiful home in Sturgeon Bay and in addition he owns a small fruit farm and summer home. He is now living retired after a life of intense and intelligently directed activity. He belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and he holds membership with the Grand Army of the Republic and the Loyal Legion of the United States. He has ever been a man of positive character, fearless in the expression of his convictions and a power in the community where he has long resided. Nor has his influence been checked by the boundaries of Door county, as he has had directing voice in the affairs of state and nation and numbers among his warmest friends many of the most eminent men of Wisconsin and of the country, who have ever been proud to name him as a colleague.

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#### JOSEPH A. CAMPBELL.

Joseph A. Campbell, bridge tender for the city of Sturgeon Bay, has been a resident of Door county for more than half a century and also long associated with its commercial interests. Since 1911 he has occupied his present position and has made an excellent official in that connection. He was born in New York, March 14, 1845, and is a son of John and Nancy (MacEdwards) Campbell, who were natives of Scotland and came to America about 1825. They settled first in Canada, where they lived for five years, and then removed to New York. The father was a Baptist minister and devoted his life to preaching the gospel until his health failed. He then took up the occupation of farming, which he followed for fifteen years, after which he removed to Michigan and made his home with his children throughout the remaining years of his life, his death occurring in 1871. For a long period he had survived his wife who passed away in 1858.



Joseph A. Campbell was reared and educated in Michigan and started out to earn his own living when seventeen years of age. On the 13th of June, 1865, he came to Door county, where he has since made his home. Here he engaged in the lumber business and finally purchased land, which he cleared of the trees, selling the lumber. He followed the lumber business until the forests were all cut and for eighteen years he was in the employ of Leathem & Smith, as head man. In 1911 he entered the employ of the city as bridge tender and has continued in that position to the present time, having charge of the city toll bridge.

In August, 1866, Mr. Campbell was united in marriage to Miss Desdemona Martin and to them was born one child, Cora, who died in 1868, at the age of nine months. Mrs. Campbell passed away February 11, 1916, after an illness of eight weeks and her death was deeply deplored not only by her relatives but also by many warm friends.

In his political views Mr. Campbell has always been a stalwart republican and has been called upon to fill various local offices. He served as deputy sheriff of Door county in 1869-70, and when Sturgeon Bay was organized as a village he became a member of the village board and occupied that position for three years. After it became a city he was elected a member of the city council and in that position did all in his power to uphold the business interests of Sturgeon Bay and advance its civic standards. In his fraternal relations he is a Mason and is an exemplary member of the craft. His religious belief is that of the Baptist church and he is loyal to its teachings and its purposes. Long residence in this county has made him widely known and those who come in contact with him have reason to respect him for his genuine worth and many admirable qualities.

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#### GEORGE BLANK.

Among the well known farmers of Egg Harbor township is George Blank, who dates his residence in Wisconsin from 1873 and in Door county from 1880, the latter period covering thirty-seven years. He was born in Germany, September 4, 1861, and is a son of Martin and Hedwig (Shoemaker) Blank, who were also natives of that country. The father followed farming in Germany but at an early day came to the United States, remaining for five years. He then returned to his native land and was married, remaining there until after his wife's death. In 1873 he brought his children to the United States and established his home in Wisconsin, where he passed away in 1877.

George Blank spent the first twelve years of this life in Germany and began his education there. He came with his father to the new world and attended school in Wisconsin. Later he was employed for several years at farm work and in 1880 he came to Door county, where he was again a farm hand. He carefully saved his earnings until his industry and economy brought him sufficient capital to enable him to purchase one hundred and twenty acres of land on section 34, Egg Harbor township. This he at once began to develop and has continued its cultivation to the present time, converting the place into a highly developed and valuable farm. In addition to raising the crops best adapted to

the soil and climate, he is also engaged in dairying, keeping fifteen head of milch cows.

On the 30th of August, 1887, Mr. Blank was married to Miss Emilia Gebaurer, a daughter of Fred and Louisa (Wagener) Gebaurer, who were natives of Germany, where Mrs. Blank was born October 14, 1867. Her mother died in Germany in 1870 and her father came to America in 1882, settling in Dodge county, Wisconsin, where he followed farming throughout his remaining days. He passed away in 1908. To Mr. and Mrs. Blank have been born thirteen children, namely: Henry, who is a plumber of Thiensville, Wisconsin; Martin, who is principal of the high school at Thiensville; Elvina, who is the wife of Emil Zarling, of Milwaukee; Lilly, the wife of Louis Cochnet, a farmer of Nasewaupee township, this county; Ella, the wife of Art Paschke, a farmer of Egg Harbor township; and George, Jenta, Esther, Gladys, Meta, Leona, Herbert and Elvera, all of whom are at home. In politics Mr. Blank holds to an independent course. He is now serving as township treasurer, to which position he was elected in 1917. He has served on the township board for three years and also as assessor for one year. His religious faith is that of the Lutheran church. His has been an active and useful life, in which unfaltering industry has won success and in which devotion to public duty has made him a valued citizen.

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#### AL OSMUSON.

Al Osmuson was born in Norway, May 10, 1875, a son of Osmund and Adre (Negard) Osmuson, who were married at Porsgrund, Norway, and in 1881 came to the United States. For a short time they resided at Manitowoc but in the same year became residents of Clay Banks township, Door county, where the father purchased eighty acres of wild land for which he paid eleven hundred dollars. His sons cleared away the timber, selling the cord wood and ties, and the father worked at the blacksmith's trade, which he had learned and followed in his native land. He died in 1914 but his widow survives. They had a family of seven sons and two daughters, of whom one son and the daughters are now deceased. The children were: Jacob R., who now resides in Clay Banks township, where he follows farming; Charles C., who was formerly sheriff of this county and a prominent factor in politics, now residing at Rhinelander; Oscar, who follows farming south of Sawyer; Kate, who died in infancy; Al, of this review; Simon Peter, who died at the age of seventeen years; Kate, who became the wife of Peter Torkleson, of Manitowoc, and died in 1912; Paul William, living in Sturgeon Bay; and Louis, who occupies the old homestead.

Al Osmuson began buying horses when a young man and afterward turned his attention to the lumber business, in which he engaged for many years. He eventually operated in lumber, purchasing land from which he cut the timber. Still later he was owner of a livery barn at Sawyer and in addition bought and sold hay and grain. He continued to deal in horses also until 1911, when he sold out his business. In that year he was elected sheriff of Door county, which position he filled for two years, after which he purchased timber land and engaged

in logging for two years. In 1914 he was reelected sheriff of Door county, serving until 1916.

In 1906 Mr. Osmuson was married to Miss Madeline Hitt, of Clay Banks, who passed away in 1908, and in 1915 he wedded Margie Fons, of Milwaukee. His children are: Francis Howard, nine years of age, who was born of the first marriage; and Olive Bernice, who is a year old. Mr. Osmuson belongs to the Fraternal Order of Eagles and his political allegiance is given to the republican party. He has long manifested an active interest in its growth and success and has done all in his power to further its progress. That he has made an excellent record in office is shown by his reelection, for in the discharge of his duties he is prompt, faithful and thoroughly reliable.

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#### HARRY OLSON.

Harry Olson, who is busily and successfully engaged in dairying and general farming on section 19, Clay Banks township, has a fine home in the midst of broad fields and annually gathers therefrom substantial harvests. He has been a lifelong resident of Wisconsin, his birth having occurred in Manitowoc county, January 16, 1871, his parents being Gilbert and Ingre Olson. The father was born in Valdres, Norway, November 22, 1841, and was a son of Ole Nelson, who was born in 1805 and was a carpenter by trade. The wife of Ole Nelson was Martha Gilbertson, who was born in 1808. They became the parents of eight children, four of whom came to the United States.

Of that family Gilbert Olson was the fifth in order of birth and was the only one who came to Door county. He learned and followed the tailor's trade but in 1869, when twenty-eight years of age, decided to try his fortune on this side of the Atlantic and crossed the briny deep to Quebec, whence he made his way to Milwaukee. He later followed farming in Manitowoc county for six years and in 1875 removed to Door county with his family, establishing his home in Clay Banks township.

Mr. Olson married Miss Ingre Haldorson, who was born in Norway, November 13, 1842. By this marriage they became parents of five children. Mary, born May 17, 1865, is now the wife of Chancy Mackey, of Clay Banks township. Ole, born September 22, 1868, is at home. Harry is the third of the family. Clara, born September 19, 1875, is the wife of Magnus Johnson, of Sawyer, Wisconsin. Martin, born September 12, 1880, is at home. The wife and mother passed away February 28, 1917, and was laid to rest in Tanum cemetery in Clay Banks township. She was a consistent member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, to which Gilbert Olson still belongs. His political support is given to the republican party and he has filled a number of public offices. He was town supervisor for four terms, was township assessor for three terms, was school clerk for eighteen years and school treasurer for two terms. He was the organizer of district No. 3 and he has been the secretary of Tanum church for seven years. He has been called upon for official service in various connections and is ever loyal to the trust reposed in him.

Harry Olson, whose name introduces this review, acquired a common school

education and has devoted his life to farming. He purchased eighty acres of land and has cleared and developed most of it, converting it into one of the well improved places of Clay Banks township. On his farm he has a fine dwelling and large and substantial outbuildings. He carries on general farming and dairying and is the owner of a registered Guernsey bull and of high grade cattle.

On the 9th of October, 1907, Mr. Olson was married to Miss Marie Johnsrud, of Manitowoc county, Wisconsin, a daughter of Knut and Ingeborg Johnsrud. Her father passed away in Manitowoc county, after which her mother lived with Mr. and Mrs. Olson for a number of years but was called to her final rest in 1911, her remains being interred in Manitowoc cemetery. To Mr. and Mrs. Olson have been born three children, Lester, Norman and Gordon, all at home. The parents are consistent members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and in politics Mr. Olson has been a republican since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He has served as supervisor for three years and has always been faithful in duties of citizenship but has never sought nor desired political preferment, as he wishes to give his undivided attention to his business affairs and is today recognized as one of the representative agriculturists of his section of the county.

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#### WILLIAM E. WAGENER.

Entering upon a profession where advancement depends entirely upon individual merit and ability, William E. Wagener has made steady progress and is today regarded as one of the leading lawyers of Sturgeon Bay, careful in the preparation of his cases and clear in his presentation of the facts before the court. He was born October 25, 1881, in the city in which he still resides, a son of Arnold and Isabelle (Terrens) Wagener. The father was born in Germany in 1844 and was a son of Nicholas Wagener, also a native of that country, whence in 1850 he brought his family to the United States, settling in Manitowoc county, Wisconsin, where he followed the occupation of farming. There Arnold Wagener was reared and educated, and with the outbreak of the Civil war his patriotic spirit was aroused in defense of the Union. In 1861, when but seventeen years of age, he joined Company A of the Fifth Wisconsin Infantry, with which he served until the close of hostilities. He was twice wounded while at the front and he participated in many hotly contested engagements which proved his valor and demonstrated his loyalty to his adopted land. After the war he went west to California, where he devoted several months to the hazardous occupation of driving a supply wagon across the plains. Later he returned to Wisconsin and for a time was employed in the Schlitz brewery of Milwaukee. The year 1873 witnessed his arrival in Door county and at Sturgeon Bay he established a brewery in partnership with his brother, developing one of the leading enterprises of the kind in his section of the state. As the years passed on he prospered and he became not only one of the successful but also one of the prominent and influential residents of his community. He was recognized as a political leader, giving stalwart allegiance to the democratic party, and for one term he served as postmaster of Sturgeon Bay, while for several terms he filled the position of sheriff of Door county. He held membership with the Grand Army of the Republic and with the

Sons of Herman and he was widely recognized as a man of genuine worth, especially among the people of his own race. In matters of citizenship he was as true and loyal to his adopted country in days of peace as he was when he demonstrated his patriotic spirit by following the stars and stripes on the battle-fields of the south. It was in 1873 that he wedded Miss Terrens, a native of Illinois, and they became the parents of six children: Hubert, Anna, Arnold, William E., Walter and Lionel. The father passed away in July, 1901, but the mother is still living.

William E. Wagener attended the public schools of Sturgeon Bay until he had mastered the branches taught in the various grades and was graduated from the high school with the class of 1902. It was his desire to become a member of the bar and with that end in view he matriculated in the State University, entering the law department, from which he was graduated in 1906. He then opened an office in Sturgeon Bay, where he has since remained in the general practice of law, and from 1907 until 1916 he was city attorney, making a splendid record in that position by the prompt and faithful manner in which he safeguarded the legal interests of the city. He is always most careful to prepare his cases with great thoroughness and care, is resourceful in argument and forceful in the presentation of his cause.

On the 17th of February, 1909, Mr. Wagener was united in marriage to Miss Lucy Rysdorp of Sturgeon Bay, a daughter of John H. and Jennie Rysdorp, who came from Grand Haven, Michigan, to Door county. Mr. and Mrs. Wagener have two children, Dorothy Dean and Ruth Isabelle. The parents occupy an enviable position in the social circles of the city and Mr. Wagener is well known as an active supporter of the democratic party. Those who know him, and he has a wide acquaintance in Sturgeon Bay, entertain for him warm regard by reason of his sterling worth and his many admirable personal traits as well as his professional ability.

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#### LUKE KEOGH.

Luke Keogh is living retired in Forestville township but for many years was actively and prominently identified with general agricultural pursuits. He was born in Dublin, Ireland, May 16, 1848, a son of James and Mary (Moore) Keogh. The father's birth occurred in County Meath, Ireland, and after his marriage he spent a number of years on a large estate there but in 1852 sought a home in the new world, making his way first to Ontario, Canada. He was employed at farm labor near Toronto but about 1854 came to Wisconsin, making the journey by way of the lakes to Chicago, thence on the ship Lady Elgin to Two Rivers and by fish boat to Algoma. From that point he proceeded to Manitowoc, where he spent one winter, after which he took up government land on which not a furrow had been turned nor an improvement made. With characteristic energy he began to develop the property and after adding many improvements thereto he sold to Mr. Miller. He then took up another one hundred and sixty acres on which he built a log house. His remaining days were spent upon that farm, his death occurring when he was seventy-three years of age, while his wife passed away

at the age of forty-five years. Their family included James Keogh, who was a pioneer banker of Sturgeon Bay and a prominent and influential citizen. The Keoghs were among the earliest settlers of Forestville township, coming from Ireland with the Perrys at a very early period.

Luke Keogh spent his boyhood on the old home place in Forestville township, pursuing his education in one of the old-time log schoolhouses. He worked in sawmills and in the lumber woods near Sturgeon Bay and his life of diligence brought to him the capital that enabled him to later acquire a farm. After a time he purchased land, which he cleared and developed. Subsequently he purchased two more farms and in fact dealt quite extensively in farm property, his investments being most judiciously made, so that his sales brought to him a good income. When he retired he was the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of land and he is now living upon his farm with his daughter, enjoying a rest which he has truly earned and richly deserves.

Mr. Keogh was united in marriage to Miss Julia Davis, a daughter of Thomas and Catherine (Rouke) Davis. She was a native of Ontario, Canada, and came with her parents to Wisconsin in the early '60s. They established their home in Nasewaupsee township, Door county, where their remaining days were passed. Mrs. Keogh passed away in May, 1888, at the age of thirty-eight years, and left behind her many warm friends. She had become the mother of eight children, namely: Mary, who died at the age of eighteen months; James T.; John D.; Michael, deceased; Edward J.; Luke L.; Ella Agatha; and Patrick Henry.

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#### JACOB MILLER.

Jacob Miller, residing on sections 11 and 14, Sturgeon Bay township, owns and operates a well improved farm of two hundred acres which was all covered with timber when it came into his possession thirty-six years ago. His birth occurred in Washington county, Wisconsin, on the 5th of February, 1858, and his parents were people of German descent. In the acquirement of an education he attended the common schools of his native county, where he spent the first twenty-three years of his life. In 1881 he came to Door county, taking up his abode in Sturgeon Bay township on the place where he now resides and from which he cleared the timber. As the years have passed he has brought the property to a high state of cultivation and improvement and in the careful conduct of his farming intrests has won a gratifying annual income.

On June 21, 1879, in Washington county, Wisconsin, Mr. Miller was united in marriage to Miss Regina Klump, by whom he has five children, as follows: William, who was born in Sturgeon Bay township, September 7, 1882; Edward, who was born September 22, 1885, and now follows farming in Michigan; Jake, whose natal day was May 30, 1891; Oscar, born December 23, 1893; and Martha, whose birth occurred May 1, 1897.

Mr. Miller exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the republican party and has served as chairman of the township board for four years. He has likewise been treasurer of school district No. 1 for twenty-four years and ably discharged the duties of path master for nine years, making



JACOB MILLER AND FAMILY





an excellent record in public office. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Moravian church. The period of his residence in this county now covers more than a third of a century and he has long been numbered among its representative agriculturists and esteemed citizens.

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#### THOMAS A. SANDERSON.

Thomas A. Sanderson, an attorney practicing at Sturgeon Bay, has made for himself a position at the Door county bar which many an older representative of the profession might well envy, and has filled the office of district attorney. He was born November 21, 1883, in the city where he still resides, his parents being William A. and Sarah E. Sanderson. At the usual age he entered the public schools, passing through consecutive grades to his graduation from the high school with the class of 1903. He afterward entered the University of Wisconsin for preparation for the bar and completed a course in the law department in 1907. He then became a member of the firm of Tenneys, Hall, Davies & Sanderson at Madison, Wisconsin, where he remained until 1909, after which he came to Sturgeon Bay, where he has since practiced. In July, 1913, he was appointed district attorney and in the following year was elected to that position, in which he served until January 1, 1917.

On the 29th of October, 1913, Thomas A. Sanderson was united in marriage to Miss Jane Sumner, of Madison, a daughter of John M. Sumner, a hardware merchant. Fraternally Mr. Sanderson is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and in politics he is a progressive republican. He studies closely the questions which are to the statesmen and the man of affairs of deepest import and keeps in touch with the grave political, sociological and economic problems of the country. In his profession he never fails to give a thorough preparation and bases his argument upon clear reasoning and logical deductions combined with a comprehensive knowledge of principle and precedent.

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#### HENRY O. BERNHARDT.

Henry O. Bernhardt, secretary and manager of the Door County Abstract Company, is well known to his fellow citizens in this part of the state because of his business activities. He is a native son of the county and his stanch friends include many who have known him from his boyhood, indicating that his has been a well spent life. He was born in Forestville, September 28, 1879, a son of Julius and Wilhelmina (Keso) Bernhardt, both of whom were natives of Germany. The father came to America with his parents when eleven years of age or in the year 1854, the family home being established in Forestville, where Julius Bernhardt subsequently took up the occupation of farming on his own account. He purchased land which he cultivated and improved, continuing the further development of the property until 1900, when he retired and removed to Sturgeon Bay, where he still resides, enjoying a well earned rest. He was a

faithful soldier of the Civil war, responding to the country's call for troops to preserve the Union as a member of the Seventh Wisconsin Infantry, which was a part of the famous Iron Brigade. He served for fifteen months, his regiment being attached to the army of General Bragg. His wife passed away in September, 1916.

Henry O. Bernhardt was reared and educated in Door county, supplementing his public school education by studying in a commercial college in Milwaukee. He afterward took up bookkeeping which he followed for several years and in July, 1903, he accepted a position in the Bank of Sturgeon Bay. In 1909 he became associated with the Door County Abstract Company which is a branch of the bank. He is the secretary and manager of this company, which also conducts an insurance department. A liberal patronage is accorded the company and the success of the undertaking is attributed in no small measure to the efforts of Mr. Bernhardt, who cooperates with his associate officers, Henry Fetzner being president of the company, with A. B. Minor as vice president. Mr. Bernhardt is also engaged in fruit growing and owns an orchard in the city.

On the 14th of October, 1907, Mr. Bernhardt was married to Miss Grace Nelson and to them has been born one son, Eugene H., whose birth occurred March 4, 1911. The religious faith of the parents is that of the Catholic church and Mr. Bernhardt belongs to the Knights of Columbus and to the Catholic Order of Foresters. He is also identified with the Loyal Order of Moose. Politically he is independent, voting according to the dictates of his judgment without regard to party ties. He is not remiss in the duties of citizenship, however, but actively aids in various plans and measures for the public good.

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#### GEORGE F. HILTON, M. D.

Dr. George F. Hilton, who entered upon the practice of medicine in Sturgeon Bay in January, 1904, has in the intervening period built up a large and gratifying practice. He was born in Fremont, Wisconsin, December 20, 1875, and is a son of James and Mary (Randall) Hilton, who were natives of New York and Minnesota respectively. The latter was a daughter of Ora and Jane (Putnam) Randall, both of whom were natives of New York, and Jane Putnam was a granddaughter of General Israel Putnam, of Revolutionary war fame. In pioneer times Ora Randall removed with his family to Minnesota and it was there that his daughter Mary formed the acquaintance of James Hilton. The latter was a son of D. H. Hilton and a grandson of Daniel Hilton, who brought his family from England to the new world and about 1816 established his home at Winneconne, Wisconsin, where he passed away in 1882 at the very venerable age of ninety-six years. James Hilton went to Minnesota at the age of nineteen years and was married there. He was a mechanic and became an architect. About 1870 he removed to Fremont, Wisconsin, and his remaining days were passed in this state, his death occurring in Ogdensburg in 1912. His widow survived for about twenty-six years, passing away in 1912.

During the boyhood of Dr. Hilton the family home was maintained at Ogdensburg, Wisconsin, where he attended the public schools, and later he

became a pupil in a preparatory school connected with Colorado University. He afterward entered the Central Medical College at St. Joseph, Missouri, and was there graduated with the class of 1898. For six years thereafter he engaged in practice at Symco, Wisconsin, and in January, 1904, he came to Sturgeon Bay, where he has since remained.

On the 12th of October, 1898, Dr. Hilton was married to Miss Helen Green, of Oregon, Missouri, a daughter of James and Jane (Young) Green, and their children are Muriel, Allison, Harry Rupert, Kathleen and Mary. The parents hold membership with the Seventh Day Adventist church and Dr. Hilton's political faith is that of the republican party, to which he has adhered since attaining his majority. Along professional lines he has membership with the County and State Medical Societies and the American Medical Association and he is ever deeply interested in all those questions and interests which tend to bring to man the key to the complex mystery which we call life.

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#### RUDOLPH WOLFGRAM.

Rudolph Wolfram, who is now successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits on the old home farm in Sevastopol township, was born on the 19th of September, 1886, in that township, his parents being Robert and Henrietta (Graunke) Wolfram, both natives of Germany. It was during his youth that the father emigrated with his parents to the new world and located near Watertown, Wisconsin, but later the family removed to Kewaunee county, this state, where the grandparents of our subject continued to reside until called to the home beyond. By occupation the grandfather was a farmer. While residing in Kewaunee county Robert Wolfram was married, his bride having come to the United States during her girlhood, but her parents never left Germany. After his marriage he operated his father's farm until 1885, when he came to Door county and purchased the east half of the northwest quarter of section 7, Sevastopol township, but a year later traded this property for the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter and the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter of section 7. He cleared and improved this place and continued to engage in its cultivation until 1913, when he sold the farm to our subject, together with the southwest quarter of the northeast quarter of the same section that he had purchased later. Both he and his wife are still living and continue to reside upon the old homestead. They are earnest and consistent members of the German Lutheran church and are highly esteemed by all who know them. Their children are: Robert and Charles, both residents of Sevastopol township; Emma, the wife of John Schroeder of the same township; and Rudolph, of this review.

The last named acquired his education in the common schools of this county, which he attended until fourteen years of age, and later worked with his father upon the home farm until the latter's retirement in 1913, when our subject purchased the property and is now the owner of a well improved, highly cultivated farm of one hundred and twenty acres. On the 28th of March, 1910, Mr. Wolfram was united in marriage to Miss Elma Nieman, a daughter of William and Johanna Nieman, natives of Germany, who on coming to the new world

settled at Egg Harbor, Wisconsin. Both are now deceased and lie buried in the German Lutheran cemetery in Sevastopol township. Mr. and Mrs. Wolfgram have three children, namely: Helen, Dora and Harold. They hold membership in the German Lutheran church and are among the most highly esteemed citizens of the community in which they reside. By his ballot Mr. Wolfgram supports the men and measures of the republican party and is now efficiently serving his second term on the town board.

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#### O. L. ANDERSON.

For eleven years O. L. Anderson has resided upon his present farm on section 30, Sturgeon Bay township. This is an excellent property and he makes a specialty of dairying and fruit raising. He was born in 1863, in Stavanger, Norway, his parents being Andrew and Bertha Cecelia (Oleson) Anderson. The father died in the land of the midnight sun in 1879 and the mother afterward came to the new world, passing away on this side of the Atlantic in 1882. In their family were seven children: Bertha, the wife of Thor Thorenson, of Norway; Rachel, the deceased wife of Iver Vaagen, of Sturgeon Bay; Malina, the wife of Thomas Oleson; Ole, a resident farmer of Door county; Annie, the wife of Betel Vaagen, of Norway; Peter, who follows farming in Door county; and O. L., of this review.

The last named came to America in 1882, when a youth of nineteen years. He had heard favorable reports concerning America and its opportunities and he was desirous of trying his fortune on this side of the Atlantic. For a time he sailed as mate with Captain Packer on the Great Lakes. He also sailed as mate on the Pewaukee, on the Chandley and the Sankaneff. He also worked for Latham & Smith and was captain of the I. M. Foster for four years, so that he became thoroughly familiar with navigation interests on the Great Lakes and was widely known in that connection. While sailing he made his home in Sawyer and in Sturgeon Bay. Eleven years ago Mr. Anderson took up his abode upon the farm which is now his home and where he has lived through all the intervening period. He has an excellent property here, owning one hundred acres of rich and productive land situated on section 30, Sturgeon Bay township. Dairying is his principal industry and he keeps thoroughbred Guernsey and Holstein cattle and Red polled cows and has a fine Guernsey bull. His stock is of excellent grade. He has all the equipments of modern dairying and pays the closest attention to sanitary conditions. Upon his place he also has a large cherry and apple orchard and his fruit raising interests constitute an important source of his annual revenue. He is a man of resourceful business ability, energetic, far-sighted, sagacious, and his investments have been judiciously made. He has been interested in various local business affairs and for one year was president of the Shiloh Telephone Company, while for three years he was treasurer and at the present time is its vice president. He was also formerly a stockholder of the Farmers Elevator and is the owner of a residence and three lots in Sturgeon Bay. Energy and industry have ever enabled him to overcome obstacles and difficulties in his path and he has steadily worked his way upward in a business

way, becoming one of the substantial and successful business men of his adopted county.

On January 14, 1892, Mr. Anderson was united in marriage to Miss Helen Olson, a native of Wisconsin, and a daughter of Halvor and Lizzie Olson, who were natives of Norway and in early life came to Door county. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have become the parents of nine children: Harold, born December 29, 1892; Cecelia, whose birth occurred February 22, 1894; Edwin, whose natal day was November 22, 1895; Ingewald, born February 7, 1898; Halvor, who was born January 11, 1900; Olga, whose birth occurred December 22, 1902; Marie, born November 6, 1905; Milton, born December 23, 1908; and John Morris, born February 16, 1911.

The family hold membership in the Norwegian Lutheran church and Mr. Anderson gives his political support to the republican party. He has served as supervisor for the past three years and has been committeeman in charge of books and supplies for district No. 3. He is interested in all that pertains to public welfare and his aid and cooperation can be counted upon to further any movement which looks to the benefit and welfare of the district in which he lives. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to come to the new world, for here he has found the opportunities which he sought and in their utilization has steadily advanced, progressing step by step until he is now one of the prosperous farmers of Door county.

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#### WILLIAM C. URBAN.

William C. Urban, residing at Carlsville, where he is engaged in conducting a general store, has always been a resident of Door county, his birth having occurred in Jacksonport township, August 19, 1892. He is a son of John and Catherine (Liley) Urban, who were natives of Germany and came to the United States in an early day, establishing their home at Baltimore, Maryland. The father is a painter by trade and followed that pursuit during the summer months for a while. In 1883 he came to Door county and settled in Jacksonport township, where he developed and improved a farm which he has since owned and cultivated and upon it he and his wife still reside.

William C. Urban has been a lifelong resident of Door county. His youthful days were spent on the old homestead and his education was acquired in the district school near by. As soon as he was old enough to work in the fields he began assisting in the cultivation of the farm and remained with his parents until he had attained his majority. He then turned his attention to the business of cheese manufacturing and worked at that trade for ten months, after which he removed to Sevastopol where he established a cheese factory, which he conducted there until October, 1916. At that date he removed to Carlsville and traded for his present store and cheese factory. He is here conducting a general merchandise establishment, carrying a full line of goods and meeting with success by reason of his enterprising efforts, his honorable dealing and his earnest desire to please his patrons. In connection with the business he owns nine and one half acres of land.

In April, 1915, Mr. Urban was united in marriage to Miss Anna Schultz, a daughter of Karl Schultz, and they have one child, Nathan, born February 14, 1916. They are consistent members of the Lutheran church and Mr. Urban is a republican in his political views. His life has been one of diligence and his close application and energy have brought him a very creditable position among the young business men of his native county.

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#### EUGENE C. HART.

Eugene C. Hart has become widely known in this section of the state by reason of his inherent worth and business ability as well as owing to the fact that he is a representative of one of the old families of the state, long connected with its navigation interests. A native son of Wisconsin, Eugene C. Hart was born in Oconto, December 7, 1880, his parents being Clifford B. and Harriet E. (St. Ores) Hart. The former, a native of Green Bay, Wisconsin, was a son of Edwin Hart, whose birth occurred in Connecticut, but who became one of the pioneer residents of Green Bay, where he early became connected with business interests as a contractor. He built the first lighthouse at Long-Tail Point and for many years it was one of the landmarks of Green Bay. He was also a justice of the peace. He became connected with the tug business in partnership with his son, Clifford B. He became connected with the steamboat business in Green Bay, as founder of the Hart Steamboat Line, making trips between Green Bay, Sturgeon Bay and Menominee. Later the line was extended to Escanaba and eventually to Manistique and to Mackinac Island and the Soo operating as high as five boats at one time in the passenger and freight service. The largest was the Petoskey of seven hundred and seventy tons, which was one hundred and seventy-one by thirty feet and was built in 1888. It is now owned by the Chicago & South Haven Line. He was also the owner of the Harriet A. Hart, which was formerly the City of Louisville. It was a boat of seven hundred and fifty tons which the Hart company bought and remodeled. They started with sailing boats, which were replaced with more modern vessels, and when the canal was opened Clifford B. Hart came to Sturgeon Bay with the tug Oconto, which was the first boat that put its nose through the canal into the lake, but it could not get clear through. A contemporary writer, speaking of Mr. Hart, said: "With a lad's love of adventure and an inherent affection for things nautical, he eagerly sought opportunity on every possible occasion to make vessel trips of any nature, and when he was only twelve years old became the owner of a small boat which he used in carrying baggage between Oconto and Green Bay. When he was sixteen years of age he was the proud possessor of a schooner, and soon he became known at the different points along the coast, and gradually extended his operations by adding a number of tugs to his equipment. Out of this developed what was known as the Hart Steamboat Line."

During the winter of 1905 Captain Clifford B. Hart sold out to the Green Bay Transportation Company, intending to retire from active business, but in the spring, when the ice cleared away, he could not resist the call to nautical life and removed to Sturgeon Bay, where he became owner of dock property. He

also organized the Hart Transportation Company, which at that time owned just one steamer, the *Sailor Boy*, which they purchased from the Arnold Transit Company. It is ninety-four by twenty-four feet, with a gross tonnage of one hundred and sixty-one. Trips were made from Sturgeon Bay to Menominee, Michigan, and to Door county resorts. The business was extended in its scope from time to time and the father remained in active connection therewith until his demise, which occurred March 19, 1913. His widow still survives. They had but two children: Lewis, who died at the age of five years; and Eugene C. The father was prominent in Masonic circles, having attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite at Milwaukee. He also belonged to the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. Another, writing of him, said: "A self-made man in the fullest sense of the title, his character was one which was admirably adapted to his chosen calling. Fearless in his courage, of uncompromising honesty and integrity, he won respect and admiration from his associates and employes alike. His experiences were of varied and interesting character, and his vocation brought him into contact with all kinds and conditions of men. Those in his employ knew him as a rigid disciplinarian, yet he was ever just, and while malcontents met with a rigid front, those who were faithful in their performance of duty found him a friend and protector."

Eugene Clifford Hart has followed in the footsteps of his father and grandfather, early becoming actively connected with navigation interests. After acquiring a public school education he became active assistant to his father and after they disposed of their interests at Green Bay and removed to Sturgeon Bay his duties in connection with the Hart Transportation Company became of a more and more important character. As previously stated, the *Sailor Boy* was the first boat owned by the company following the year 1905. In the spring of 1908 they purchased the *Thistle*, a boat of forty-eight tons, eighty-eight by fourteen feet, and traveling over the same route as the *Sailor Boy*. In the winter of 1909 they purchased the *Bon Ami*, with a gross tonnage of two hundred and twenty-six, the vessel being one hundred and eight by twenty-two feet. They put the *Sailor Boy* and the *Bon Ami* on the run between Green Bay and Escanaba, but the former was sold in 1916 and the company now operates the latter between those points. Eugene C. Hart, as president of the Hart Transportation Company, also conducts a large dockage business and handles extensively coal, ice and storage. He was made secretary and treasurer of the Hart Transportation Company upon its incorporation in 1906, with his father as the president and his mother as vice president. At the time of his father's death he succeeded to the presidency and has ever maintained the high reputation which has been associated with the name in navigation circles.

On the 22d of March, 1904, Mr. Hart was married to Miss Ruby Irene Robbins, a native of Green Bay and a daughter of Edwin Rupert Robbins, who was an electrical engineer. They have become the parents of two children, Harold E. and Marion Ethel. Fraternally Mr. Hart is connected with Henry S. Baird Lodge, No. 211, F. & A. M., and is also an active worker in Sturgeon Bay Chapter, R. A. M., No. 80. He also belongs to Unit Lodge, No. 144, K. P., and in politics he is a republican but votes for men and measures rather than for party at local elections. His acquaintance at Sturgeon Bay is a wide one and his many sterling traits of character make for personal popularity. He is

always genial, courteous and obliging and is as well thoroughly reliable and enterprising. Those who know him esteem him as a man of high character and genuine worth and thus it is that he deserves mention among the representative citizens of Door county.

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#### ALFRED A. BUTTON.

Alfred A. Button, of Egg Harbor township, aided largely in the development of the fruit growing interests of Door county and also made wise and extensive investments in western Washington. He was a man of more than usual acumen and initiative, and his passing was felt as a loss to his community. He was born in Dayton, Wisconsin, September 18, 1862, and was a son of Samuel and Alzada (Mumbrue) Button. The father was born in Sussex, England, December 6, 1837, while the mother's birth occurred in Michigan, May 12, 1845. When nineteen years of age the father left England and emigrated to the United States, settling in Waupaca county, Wisconsin, at which date that entire region was covered with a dense growth of timber, roads had scarcely been thought of and most of the early settlers lived in log cabins. He erected such a residence for himself and began the arduous task of developing a farm. In time his place became highly cultivated and well improved and he continued to follow agricultural pursuits until about 1905. He then removed to the city of Waupaca, where he lived retired until his death at the age of seventy years. In politics he was a staunch democrat.

Alfred A. Button spent his boyhood upon the home farm in Waupaca county and after completing the course offered in the public schools there became a student in a business college at Oshkosh. For some time he taught school, being so engaged in Waupaca township and elsewhere, but at length he gave up the profession and removed to Tacoma, Washington, where he took up a government claim. Later he went to Seattle, where he bought land, and he also invested in property at South Bend, Washington. On leaving the Pacific northwest he located in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he was employed by the federal government as a clerk in the pension department for fourteen years. During that period he organized the Enterprise Fruit Farm Company, which purchased a tract of land in Door county. Eventually Mr. Button bought out the other members of the concern, thus becoming the owner of three hundred and sixty acres of excellent fruit land, on which he took up his residence in 1908. He brought the place to a high state of development, erected modern buildings and planted fifty acres to apples and ten acres to cherries. He gave thorough study to the problems of the fruit grower and gave his orchards the most scientific care, with the result that he developed a highly profitable business.

In 1895 Mr. Button was married to Miss Louise Reinshagen, a native of Newark, New Jersey. Her father was born in Austria and her mother in Germany but both became early settlers in Milwaukee. The father conducted a newspaper at Platteville, Wisconsin, for a number of years and for nine years was in the employ of the Milwaukee Herald. He learned the newspaper business in Austria, and his life was devoted to journalistic work. During the later years





*Alfred A Burton*



of his life he resided in Davenport, Iowa, where for some time he enjoyed a period of leisure, having retired from active life, and there he passed away. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Button, Vincent A. and Orville W.

In early life, Mr. Button was a staunch supporter of the democratic party, but in later years was a progressive republican. He acceptably filled the office of township committeeman while living in Egg Harbor township. His salient qualities were such as never fail to win respect and regard, and his friends were almost equal in number to his acquaintances. All who knew him were greatly shocked when they learned of his tragic death, which occurred November 14, 1910, he being accidentally shot by a hunter. Mrs. Button, who is a woman of unusual business ability and sound judgment, has since managed the property in Washington and in Milwaukee and has still further developed the excellent fruit farm in Door county. On the 18th of January, 1916, she was united in marriage to James J. Carmody.

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#### CHARLES MATHISON.

Charles Mathison is the owner of an excellent farm of one hundred and twenty acres which he has carefully and systematically cultivated and which is now splendidly developed. It is situated on section 8, Clay Banks township. It was in this township that Mr. Mathison was born October 3, 1876, a son of John and Jennie Mathison, who came to Door county in 1872. The father was born August 7, 1845, in Norway, and in 1872 he wedded Jennie Simondson, who was born September 12, 1843, Faaberg, Gudbrandsdalen, being the place of their nativity. During the period of their early married life they became residents of Door county and for many years were identified with its farming interests. The wife and mother passed away December 12, 1911, and was laid to rest in Clay Banks cemetery. She left three children: Emma, now the wife of Alfred Larson, of Oconomowoc, Wisconsin; Charles; and Matilda, who is a bookkeeper now with the Sawyer Implement Company. She previously taught a private school in Los Angeles, California, for several years. She is a graduate of the State Normal School at Stevens Point, Wisconsin, and also pursued a commercial course in the Scandinavian Academy.

Charles Mathison was reared to the occupation of farming, early becoming familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops. He attended the schools of the neighborhood, his parents wishing to give their children good advantages in that direction. His father served as director and treasurer of school district No. 2 for many years and he also occupied the position of supervisor in Clay Banks township. His political allegiance was always given to the republican party and he stood for that which was most progressive in the public life of the community. Both he and his wife were consistent members of the Lutheran church and their many sterling qualities gained for them warm regard.

It was amid a good home environment that Charles Mathison was reared and at length he took up the occupation of farming on his own account, purchasing his farm from his father, who had acquired one hundred and twenty acres.

having secured possession of the place when it was a tract of wild land. The labor bestowed upon the farm by John Mathison and his son Charles, the present owner, has converted it into a valuable and well improved farm, the fields annually producing substantial crops. In addition to his farming interests Charles Mathison is a stockholder in the Shiloh Telephone Company and was formerly a stockholder and one of the directors of the cheese factory.

It was on the 2d of June, 1901, that Mr. Mathison was married to Miss Emma Jorgenson, of Forestville, Wisconsin, and they have four children: Grace, Elroy, Beulah and Bernice, the last two being twins. Mr. Mathison has followed in his father's political footsteps and is an earnest advocate of republican principles. For the past three terms he has served as supervisor, making an excellent officer by reason of the prompt and faithful manner in which he discharges his duties. Both he and his wife are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, their lives being guided by its teachings. They are held in the highest esteem, genuine worth gaining for them the warm regard of all with whom they have been brought in contact.

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### JUSTIN CHAUDOIR.

Justin Chaudoir needs no introduction to the readers of this volume for he is a member of a family that has long figured prominently in connection with the business interests of Brussels and of Door county, being now a member of the Chaudoir Company, engaged in the milling and produce business, and in the conduct of a general store and cheese factory. He is displaying the same spirit of commercial enterprise and progressiveness which has ever characterized the family and his well defined purposes are being carried forward to successful fulfilment. He was born December 5, 1886, a son of Justin and Anitallya (Vorigastar) Chaudoir, who were natives of Belgium and on coming to the new world cast in their lot with the early settlers of Union township, this county.

It was upon the old home farm in that township that Justin Chaudoir was born and reared, early becoming familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops as he assisted in the labors of the home farm through the summer months, while the winter seasons were devoted to the acquirement of an education in the district schools of the neighborhood. Later he went to Jacksonport township, where he spent three years as manager of a farm for Frank La Mere, his previous home training well qualifying him for the labors which devolved upon him in that position. Later he removed to Brussels and purchased an interest in the Chaudoir Company, engaged in the operation of a flour mill, in the conduct of a produce business, a cheese factory and a general store. Every branch of the business is carefully and wisely managed and is making valuable contributions to the measure of prosperity which the company now enjoys. Mr. Chaudoir of this review displays sound judgment in managing his affairs.

Mr. Chaudoir married Miss Leona Delfosse, a daughter of Noel J. and Julia (Hoddy) Delfosse and a native of Union township. She, too, is numbered among the representatives of an old and prominent family of this part of the state.

The children of this marriage are George, Alvin, Grace, Stella and Bernard. The parents are widely and favorably known in social circles in this part of the county and have many warm friends, to whom they graciously extend the hospitality of their home.

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### JOSEPH C. DANA.

Joseph C. Dana is an active, energetic and prosperous business man of Sturgeon Bay, where he is well known as the president of the J. C. Dana Company, dealers in automobiles and farm implements. Close application and unremitting industry are the basis of his growing success. He was born in Holland, August 20, 1852, a son of Lawrence and Nellie (Hollander) Dana, who were also natives of the little land of the dikes which has won world wide admiration through the attitude maintained in the present international war. In 1853 Lawrence Dana brought his family to the new world and settled in Galena, Illinois, where he resided for two years, being employed at day labor. He then removed to Sheboygan county, Wisconsin, where he engaged in farming. He purchased land which he developed and cultivated throughout the remainder of his life, passing away in 1910. He had for about nine years survived his wife, who died in 1901.

Joseph C. Dana was but seven months old when brought by his parents to the new world and was reared and educated in Sheboygan county, having the usual experiences of the farm bred boy who divides his time between the duties of the school room, the pleasures of the play ground and the work of the fields. He left home to become a sailor on the lakes and he also engaged in the fishing industry until 1881, when he removed to Sturgeon Bay and began the sale of sewing machines. He was afterward employed in connection with an agricultural implement business for some time, but was desirous of engaging in business on his own account and put forth every effort that would enable him to accomplish that result. In 1897 he organized the J. C. Dana Company and engaged in the implement business, continuing in that line to the present time. In 1910 he also began selling automobiles and opened a fine garage and machine shop. He also has a large implement building and warehouse and both branches of his business are proving profitable. He handles the Cadillac, Buick, Maxwell and Oakland cars but makes a specialty of selling the Maxwell and Buick. His enterprise and determination are bringing to him a substantial success and he has won for himself a creditable position in the commercial circles of this city.

On the 25th of December, 1882, Mr. Dana was married to Miss Mary Gillispie and to them have been born two children: Clarence C., who was born November 3, 1883, and is the secretary and treasurer of the J. C. Dana Company; and Harry E., who was born in March, 1888, and is a stockholder in the J. C. Dana Company. He is the mechanic of the family and has charge of the garage.

In his political views Mr. Dana has been a republican since age conferred upon him the right of franchise and he has given stalwart support to his party. He does not seek nor desire office as a reward for party fealty, but has served for two terms as alderman. Fraternally he is connected with the Odd Fellows, Maccabees, National Fraternal Aid and the Modern Woodmen of America. His

religious faith is that of the Congregational church and he is loyal to its teachings, endeavoring ever to follow the golden rule. His friends, of whom there are many, speak of him in terms of high regard while his business associates recognize him as a man who is thoroughly reliable under all circumstances.

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#### LOUIS ANSCHUTZ.

Louis Anschutz, an enterprising and successful young agriculturist of Door county, owns and operates an excellent farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 33, Nasewaupee township. His birth occurred in Jacksonport, Door county, Wisconsin, on the 4th of September, 1890; his father being August Anschutz, of Jacksonport, who is a native of Green Bay, Wisconsin. The two brothers of our subject are William and Edward, both residents of Jacksonport.

Louis Anschutz was reared to manhood in his native town and for a period of eight years was employed by the Packers' Creamery in southern Wisconsin. In the fall of 1916 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Nasewaupee township and is now devoting his time and energies to the further cultivation and improvement of the farm, his enterprising and progressive methods producing excellent results.

On the 18th of April, 1911, Mr. Anschutz was united in marriage to Miss Martha Fandrei, of Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin, who was born December 3, 1891, and is of German descent. They have two children: Pauline, born September 4, 1912; and Vera, whose natal day was March 13, 1915. Mr. Anschutz gives his political allegiance to the republican party and is a consistent member of the German Lutheran church.

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#### CHARLES WORTISKA.

Since 1899 Charles Wortiska has engaged in farming on his own account on the old family homestead, which is situated on section 18, Clay Banks township. He has there a well improved place equipped with all the accessories and conveniences of the model farm of the twentieth century. It was there that his birth occurred December 2, 1874, his father being Frank Wortiska, who arrived in Door county in 1872, casting in his lot with its early agriculturists. He was born in Bohemia, was educated in that country and served for six years in the army. On reaching America he decided to try his fortune in the middle west and secured eighty acres of wild land in Door county, which at that time was entirely destitute of improvements. With characteristic energy he cleared the place and converted it into rich and productive fields. He was twice married, his first union being with Mary Kuklova, who died at the age of thirty-six years, after which he wedded Anna Leanhart, who passed away about eighteen years ago. He had nine children, of whom three died in infancy. The living children of the first marriage are: Mary, the wife of John Smolk; Frank; Charles;

Anne, the wife of John Kies, of Sawyer county; and Julia, the wife of Albert Worrel.

No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for Charles Wortiska through the period of his boyhood and youth, which was passed in the usual manner of farm bred lads, his time being divided between the work of the schoolroom and of the farm, with occasional hours for play. He began farming on his own account in 1899 on the old homestead, which is a well improved place with attractive buildings, good fences and the latest improved machinery. He concentrates his efforts upon general farming and the raising of Holstein cattle for dairy purposes. He is determined and persevering and carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes.

On the 6th of February, 1899, Mr. Wortiska was married to Miss Mary Cihlar, of Clay Banks township, by whom he has nine children, as follows: Mary, Frank, Julia, George, Charles, Francis, Bessie, William and Edward. The parents are members of St. Mary's Catholic church of Algoma and in politics Mr. Wortiska follows an independent course, supporting the candidates whom he regards as best qualified for office with little attention to party affiliations. He has served as road assessor for two years and for a similar period was a director of school district No. 3. He is interested in progress and improvement along many lines and he enjoys a measure of success that directly results from close application and indefatigable energy in business affairs.

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#### ABEL B. MINOR.

Honored and respected by all, no one more fully merits public confidence and regard as a representative of the business interests of Sturgeon Bay than Abel B. Minor, who is cashier of the Bank of Sturgeon Bay. He has been identified with this institution since 1900, or throughout the entire period of his business career, for he entered the bank upon leaving school and has since won advancement through individual effort and ability. A native of Door county, he was born at Fish Creek, January 9, 1877, and is a son of Augustine and Elizabeth (Toseland) Minor and a nephew of E. S. Minor, prominent as a member of the state legislature in both houses and as a member of congress from this district. The father was engaged in the lumber business and in fishing for a long period and is now the owner of a small farm near Sturgeon Bay but makes his home in the city.

Abel B. Minor entered the public schools at the usual age and therein mastered the branches of learning which usually constitute a common school curriculum. He also attended business college in Milwaukee for eight months and was a young man of about twenty-three years when he secured a position in the Bank of Sturgeon Bay, where he has now remained continuously since 1900. He made it his purpose to thoroughly master the duties entrusted to him and eventually won promotion to the position of assistant cashier, while later he was made cashier and has continuously served in that capacity since 1910.

In 1903 Mr. Minor was married to Miss Annie C. Nelson, a daughter of John F. and Sophia Nelson, who were early residents of this county. Mr. and

Mrs. Minor have two children, June and Jeannette. Mr. Minor belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternity. His political allegiance is given to the republican party, and while he has never sought nor desired political office, he has served as a member of the school board and is a stalwart champion of the cause of public education. In business he is found to be a courteous and obliging official, one ever ready to put forth any effort to assist others to a point that is not incompatible with the safety of the bank.

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### JOSEPH R. HABERLI.

A very attractive farm property is that owned and operated by Joseph R. Haberli, who lives on sections 20 and 21, Egg Harbor township, having there one hundred and sixty acres of excellent land. He is now extensively and successfully engaged in the dairy business, being one of the foremost representatives of this industry in his township.

Mr. Haberli was born in Sevastopol township, Door county, December 16, 1886, and is a son of Alois and Anna (Schlice) Haberli, who were natives of Switzerland and of Forestville, Door county, Wisconsin, respectively. The father came to America when a youth of eighteen years and located first in Milwaukee, where he lived for a short time, after which he came to Door county, where he was employed by a brewery. He then purchased land in Sturgeon Bay township and later traded that property for a saloon in Sturgeon Bay, which he conducted for a while. Later he bought other land in Sevastopol township, which he at once began to improve and develop, continuing its cultivation throughout his remaining days, his life's labors being ended in January, 1912. His widow still survives and is now a resident of Sevastopol township.

Joseph R. Haberli, whose name introduces this review, was reared and educated in Sevastopol township and remained with his parents until he had reached the age of twenty-three years, when he started out in business life independently. It was at that time that he purchased his present farm, comprising one hundred and sixty acres of excellent land on sections 20 and 21, Egg Harbor township, the buildings being situated on the latter section. He has greatly improved the place during the time that it has been in his possession and has now one of the best farms of the county. All of the accessories and conveniences of the model farm property are seen upon his place. There are good buildings in the midst of highly cultivated fields, which are divided by well kept fences. He has the latest improved farm machinery and everything about his place breathes an air of progress and prosperity. He is now successfully engaged in the dairy business, milking sixteen cows, and he rents one hundred and sixty acres of land for pasturage. He raises high grade stock, handling largely Holstein cattle.

In 1910, Mr. Haberli was united in marriage to Miss Ida Stern, a daughter of August and Bertha (Voight) Stern, the former a native of Wisconsin, while the latter was born in Germany. The father came to Door county when a young man and established his home in Forestville township, where he purchased land and carried on farming throughout his remaining days. He was killed by lightning in 1893 and is still survived by his widow, who yet makes her home in





MR. AND MRS. JOSEPH R. HABERLI



Sevastopol township. To Mr. and Mrs. Haberli have been born three children: Milton, whose birth occurred October 18, 1910; Verna, who was born in July, 1912; and Gertrude, born in September, 1914.

Mr. and Mrs. Haberli are both faithful members of the German Lutheran church and Mr. Haberli is a democrat in his political views, but he does not seek nor desire office as a reward for party fealty, preferring to concentrate his efforts and attention upon his business affairs, which are wisely, systematically and successfully managed. He is today one of the progressive farmers of his community and Door county is glad to number him among her native sons.

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#### AUGUST WILKE.

August Wilke, who follows farming in Forestville township, his home being on section 35, is not only a native son of Door county but was born July 15, 1885, in the township where he still makes his home. His parents are Fred and Agnes (Seivert) Wilke. The father, a native of Pomerania, Germany, was a son of Henry and Laura Wilke and was educated in his native land, whence in 1865 he came to the United States, establishing his home in Manitowoc, Wisconsin. The family rented a farm in that locality for four years and later came to Door county settling in Forestville township, where they purchased a farm of forty acres to which was afterward added a tract of eighty acres. Their first home was a rude shanty but some time later they erected a good frame residence and substantial barns. When the land first came into possession of the family it was a wild tract covered with a native growth of timber. There was much wild game to be found in the neighborhood and Indians were frequently seen, showing that the white race had not penetrated far into this region to reclaim it for the purposes of civilization. Fred Wilke is still living upon the old homestead farm and is one of the worthy pioneer settlers of Door county. In 1874 he wedded Agnes Seivert, a daughter of George and Elizabeth Seivert, who brought their family to the United States from Germany when Mrs. Wilke was but two years of age. The Seivert home was established at Manitowoc, where land was purchased, upon which their remaining days were passed. In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Wilke were ten children, namely: Richard, Herman, Henry, Alvina, Laura, August, Fred, Zelma, Emil and Ida.

August Wilke was reared on the old family homestead in Forestville township and in his youthful days divided his time between the duties of the school-room, the pleasures of the playground and the work of the fields. He remained with his father upon the farm until 1913 and then purchased his present place—a tract of eighty acres on section 35, Forestville township. On the 10th of February, 1917, he purchased a farm of one hundred and twenty acres east of Valmy, on which his brother Fred is now residing and cultivating the land.

In 1909 Mr. Wilke was united in marriage to Miss Lydia Dephenbaugh, a daughter of George and Matilda (Schultz) Dephenbaugh, the former a prominent farmer of Sevastopol township. He died in 1912, at the age of forty-seven years, and the mother is still living in Door county. Mrs. Wilke was

born in Sevastopol township and by her marriage has become the mother of four children: Adaline, Melvin, Mabel and Emily.

Mr. Wilke has led a very busy life. For a year he conducted a garage at Forestville and for fourteen years he engaged in threshing. He now has a saw-mill on his place but he gives the greater part of his time and attention to the cultivation of his land and has developed an excellent property. The success which he has achieved is the direct result of his earnest, persistent labors and his life record shows what may be accomplished when industry and ambition point out the way.

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### JOSEPH JUSTIN CURTIN, M. D.

Dr. Joseph Justin Curtin, whose college training and hospital experience have well qualified him for the success in practice which he is now winning as a practitioner of Sawyer, was born in Holland township, Brown county, Wisconsin, March 22, 1886, his parents being Daniel R. and Mary (Golden) Curtin. The father is a native of Woodville township, Calumet county, Wisconsin, born July 3, 1855, and the mother's birth occurred in Holland township, Brown county, on the 31st of May, 1853. The former was a son of James Curtin, a native of Ireland, born in 1818. He came to the new world in 1843 and after living in Ohio for two years, took up his abode upon a farm in Calumet county, Wisconsin, where he engaged in general agricultural pursuits until his death. Daniel R. Curtin married Mary Golden, a daughter of James Golden, a native of Ireland, who about 1845 settled in Holland township, Brown county, Wisconsin, where he continued to live until called to his final rest. Mr. and Mrs. Daniel R. Curtin occupied the old homestead farm until 1908, when they removed to Milwaukee. He was at one time the owner of the town site of Biwabik, Minnesota, and for ten years he engaged in mining and in the timber business. He lived retired in Milwaukee until his death, which occurred October 17, 1916. While in Calumet county he was elected in 1909 to represent his district in the general assembly and in various other ways he had been prominently connected with public affairs in this state.

Dr. Curtin acquired his education in parochial schools of Holland, Wisconsin, from which he was graduated, and in the high school at Kaukauna, Wisconsin, where he completed his course in 1905. He afterward determined upon the practice of medicine as a life work and with that end in view entered Marquette University, in which he pursued his medical course, winning his diploma and degree in 1910. He afterward spent a year as interne in Trinity Hospital at Milwaukee and thus added to his theoretical knowledge the wisdom that comes from varied hospital practice. On the expiration of that period he removed to Wabeno, Wisconsin, where he practiced for two years and then opened an office in Wheeler, this state, where he remained for three years. In March, 1915, he came to Sawyer, where he has practiced continuously to the present time. He is making steady advance along professional lines, concentrating his energies with great thoroughness upon his professional duties.

On the 24th of May, 1913, Dr. Curtin was married to Miss Ruth Goodell,

of Wheeler, a daughter of Harrison and Mary Goodell. Their children are Eileen Mary and Daniel Harrison. The parents are members of Corpus Christi Catholic church and Dr. Curtin votes with the republican party, which he has supported since attaining his majority. He is an interested student of the science of medicine and in his chosen life work displays a sympathetic understanding and an intuition which add much to the effectiveness of his labors.

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#### EDWARD REYNOLDS.

Edward Reynolds was born in Michigan, the son of Charles and Eliza A. Reynolds. He with his father became identified with the lumber industry of Sturgeon Bay under the name of the Reynolds Lumber Company in 1888, having taken over the business of the Sturgeon Bay Lumber Company.

In December, 1895, The Reynolds Preserving Company was organized, of which Edward Reynolds is president and Edward and William S. Reynolds, managers. This business is still in successful operation, making a specialty of canning peas and cherries. The company has packed as high as three million five hundred thousand cans of peas a year, the product of two thousand acres of land. These peas have been distributed throughout a large portion of the United States. The industry is one of the most important of Sturgeon Bay and employs several hundred people during the summer months. The company owns several farms and cherry orchards and has cleared and developed extensive tracts of land in the county.

In 1885 Mr. Reynolds was married to Miss Lucy V. Rice, of Grand Haven, Michigan, and they have three children, Margaret Rice, Alice R. and Edward S., the last named being associated with his father in business. The family attend the Congregational church and work toward promoting its growth and extending its influence. Mr. Reynolds is a director of the Bank of Sturgeon Bay, has filled the office of city alderman and also served on the board of education.

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#### J. R. OSMUNDSON.

J. R. Osmundson, actively identified with farming interests in Clay Banks township, his home being on section 7, was born September 19, 1867, in Norway, where he spent the first thirteen years of his life. He then accompanied his parents, Osmund and Andre Osmundson, to the new world, and making their way into the interior of the country, they settled on what became the old family homestead, now occupied by their son Lewis. There the father continued farming for many years and passed away December 16, 1915. His widow survives and yet makes her home with her son Lewis. In the family were eight children: J. R., of this review; Charlie, who is living in Rhinelander, Wisconsin; Oscar, a resident of Sturgeon Bay township; Al, who is located in Sawyer; William, living at Green Bay; Simon, who passed away and was laid to rest in the Shiloh

cemetery; Katie, who has departed this life and was buried in Manitowoc county; and Lewis, who yet occupies the old home place.

In early life J. R. Osmundson started out to provide for his own support and was employed in various localities, spending some time in the lumber camps of Michigan and of Wisconsin and also in the life saving station on Plum island and at the life saving station in Sheboygan. Six years thus passed. It was by working in this way that he was enabled to hold on to his farm during the hard times. He has cleared most of his land from the brush and has made it a productive tract. He now has one hundred and twenty acres and the soil, naturally rich and arable, responds readily to the care and labor which he bestows upon it. In addition to his farming interests he is a stockholder and president of the cheese factory at Forestville and was formerly the president of the Viking Telephone Company. He applies himself diligently to the mastery of every task at hand and his progressive spirit enables him to wisely direct his interests so that substantial results are attained.

On the 10th of November, 1889, Mr. Osmundson was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Tukelson, of Manitowoc, and they have eight children: Alma, who passed away, her grave being made in Antigo; Arthur, a carpenter of Black River, Michigan; Thomas, a resident of Clay Banks township; Alma, a teacher in the schools of Seattle, Washington; and Raymond, Selma, Stella and Jacob, all at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Osmundson hold membership in the Vignes Norwegian Lutheran church, of which he was formerly the secretary. He stands at all times for intellectual and moral progress and was one of the organizers of school district No. 2. He has ever believed in providing the young with liberal educational opportunities, feeling that they are thus best qualified for life's practical and responsible duties. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and for several terms he acceptably filled the office of supervisor.

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#### ASLAG ANDERSON.

Aslag Anderson was one of the substantial citizens that Norway furnished to Door county. While he has passed away, his influence yet remains and the results of his labors are still felt in the business conditions and the prosperity of this section of the state. He was born in Norway, August 8, 1829, a son of Andrew Halverson, who was also a native of the land of the midnight sun and there spent his entire life. Aslag Anderson was a youth of nineteen years when he bade adieu to friends and native country and sailed for the new world. He did not tarry on the Atlantic coast but made his way at once into the interior of the country, settling in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in 1848. He afterward removed to Escanaba, Michigan, where he was employed at the millwright's trade for about seven years.

In 1855 he came to Door county but shortly afterward removed to Cedar River, Michigan, and in 1858 he returned to Door county, locating in Ephraim, after which he entered three hundred acres of land. He then concentrated his attention upon general farming and he also built a pier. He remained in business



ASLAG ANDERSON





nere for several years, working some on Chambers Island and in Menominee, Michigan. Later he operated his farm near Ephraim and in connection with its cultivation he conducted a small store. His business rapidly increased along that line and he later built the present store near the pier. In 1880 a part of the pier, together with his warehouse were destroyed by fire, causing him a loss of five thousand dollars. With characteristic energy and determination, however, he at once rebuilt his warehouse and pier and resumed business, in which he remained active to the time of his demise.

On the 18th of June, 1861, Mr. Anderson was united in marriage to Miss Ann Margaret Hansen, a native of Norway, and they became the parents of twelve children, of whom ten are yet living, namely: Lizzie A. and Adolph, who have charge of the business at Ephraim; Julia, the wife of Alex Johnson, of Sturgeon Bay; Munda; Olive; Cordelia, the wife of Martin Hogenson, of Sheboygan, Wisconsin; Alvira, who is the wife of Dr. G. R. Egeland, of Sturgeon Bay; Agnes, who gave her hand in marriage to Samuel T. Torgeson, of Miles City, Montana; Frank, a resident of Ephraim; and Elmer, employed in a bank at Green Bay.

The death of the father occurred August 5, 1892, while his wife had passed away February 23, 1890. His political endorsement was given to the men and measures of the republican party and he served on the town board in Gibraltar. His religious belief was that of the Moravian church and his faith guided him in all of life's relations. He was a man worthy of the respect and confidence of his fellow citizens and during his long residence in this county he won a very extensive circle of friends who ever entertained for him the highest regard.

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#### ANTON GEITNER.

Anton Geitner, living on section 26, Egg Harbor township, has devoted his entire life to general agricultural pursuits and on attaining his majority purchased his present farming property, which comprises one hundred and twenty acres of rich and arable land. He was born in Kewaunee county, Wisconsin, in May, 1868, a son of Anton and Margaret Geitner, who were natives of Germany and in early life came to the new world, settling in Kewaunee county, where the father followed farming for a number of years. He then removed to Door county, where he purchased land which he continued to cultivate and improve until his death, which occurred in 1895. His widow survived him for only two years, passing away in 1897.

Anton Geitner was reared in this state and acquired his education in the public schools, thus becoming well qualified for life's practical and responsible duties. He assisted his father in the work of the farm through the summer months and when he had become of age, began farming on his own account. Purchasing property, he became owner of one hundred and twenty acres on section 26, Egg Harbor township, and has since devoted his time and attention to raising the cereals best adapted to soil and climate. He makes a specialty of raising full-blooded Holstein cattle and is successfully engaged in dairying, milking about eighteen cows. His business affairs are carefully and wisely managed and he has gained a comfortable competence as the result of his intelligently directed labors.

In November, 1891, Mr. Geitner was united in marriage to Miss Mary Mosquellor, a daughter of Joseph and Hannah (Weinhart) Mosquellor, who were natives of Germany. The father died in June, 1914, but the mother is still living. Mr. and Mrs. Geitner have become the parents of ten children: Anton, who is engaged in farming in Sevastopol township; Frank and Rose at home; Amelia, the wife of Joseph Ferron, who is a resident farmer of Sevastopol township; John, Mary, Ira, Leo and Margaret, who are yet under the parental roof; and Annie, who died in October, 1912.

The religious faith of the family is that of the Catholic church. In his political views Mr. Geitner is a republican and he keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day, but does not seek nor desire office, preferring to concentrate his time and energies upon his farming interests. He is well known in this county where he has spent the greater part of his life and he enjoys the warm regard of many friends.

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#### FRANK C. PAYNE.

Frank C. Payne, a chiropractor practicing in Sturgeon Bay, was born in Sauk county, Wisconsin, December 19, 1868, and is a son of Leonard W. and Susan M. (Church) Payne, who were natives of New York and were of English descent. The father was a farmer by occupation and at the close of the Civil war removed westward, taking up his abode in Sauk county. For nearly four years he had served in defense of the Union, enlisting as a member of Company K, Twenty-Third New York Volunteer Infantry. His military record was a creditable one, for he had been prompt, fearless and loyal in the discharge of his duties. With his removal to this state he began farming and afterward he removed to Minnesota, where he took up a homestead claim but his crops were destroyed by grasshoppers and he returned to Wisconsin, purchasing land in Eau Claire county. This he continued to cultivate throughout his remaining days, his death occurring in 1882, in which year his wife also passed away.

The boyhood and youth of Frank C. Payne were largely passed in Sauk county and its public schools furnished him his educational privileges. He was still in his boyhood when his father died and he was reared by an uncle in Sauk county, remaining with him until he attained his majority. He then began teaching school in Price county, Wisconsin, where he remained for two years. Later he spent a year as a student in normal school and in 1894 he engaged in the drug business, while subsequently he followed merchandising in Michigan and in Wisconsin for several years. In 1911, however, he turned his attention to chiropractic and in 1913 came to Sturgeon Bay where he opened an office and has ever since followed his profession. He is the only chiropractor in this city and he enjoys a large practice, doing splendid work in bringing about the normal conditions that result in health.

Dr. Payne was married to Miss Anna M. Dier on the 31st of July, 1896. Her parents, Adam and Catherine (Melchor) Dier, were natives of Lorraine. Her father came to America about 1857 and settled in Kewaunee county, Wisconsin, where he followed farming until his life labors were ended in death in

May, 1891. His widow still resides on the old home place. Mr. Payne has been a member of the Knights of Pythias Lodge for twenty-six years. His political support is given to the republican party, but he has never been an office seeker, although never remiss in the duties of citizenship. His wife is a member of the Catholic church. Dr. Payne belongs to the Wisconsin Chiropractic Association of which he is treasurer and his interest centers in his profession with the strong desire to aid his fellowmen.

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### JULIUS BERNHART.

Julius Bernhart is now living retired in Sturgeon Bay in the enjoyment of well earned rest, which he richly deserves. For many years he was actively connected with farming interests, carrying on agricultural pursuits in Forestville township for forty-five years. His life has thus been a busy and active one, crowned with the success that follows earnest and persistent labor. He was born in Germany, February 6, 1840, and is a son of Michael Bernhart, who was also a native of Germany, where he followed the occupations of farming, fishing and tailoring. He died in that country in 1843, while his wife long survived him, passing away in 1883.

Julius Bernhart was reared in his native country and early started out in life to provide for his own support. He was employed by others until 1860, when he began farming on his own account. He had come to America in 1853, when a youth of thirteen years, and had taken up his abode in Sheboygan county, Wisconsin, where he lived until 1855, when he and his mother and two brothers removed to Door county. He secured employment as a farm hand here and carefully saved his earnings until the sum was sufficient to enable him to purchase property. In 1858 he bought eighty acres in Forestville township and he transformed the wild land into productive fields, which he continued to cultivate season after season until he had there carried on farming for forty-five years, making his place a valuable property. In 1900 he sold the farm and came to Sturgeon Bay in 1901, having retired from active agricultural life. In fact he takes no active part in business although he is a stockholder of the Peoples Store, a large department store of Sturgeon Bay, and he also owns residence property here which he rents. His real estate interests likewise include a fine home at number 215 North Church Street.

The active business career of Mr. Bernhart was interrupted when, in response to the country's call for troops, he enlisted in the Union Army as a member of Company B, Seventh Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, with which he served for ten months, participating in several engagements. He now maintains pleasant relations with his old army comrades as a member of Schuyler Post, G. A. R.

On the 2d of November, 1866, Mr. Bernhart was united in marriage to Miss Wilhelmina Keso, and to them were born eight children: Louise, who is now the wife of Joseph Rhode, a resident of Appleton, Wisconsin; Frank, who died in August, 1913, leaving a wife, who in her maidenhood was Emma Erdman and who now lives with his father; Annie, a resident of Milwaukee; Mary, the wife of C. O. O'Callahan, a resident of Chicago; Matilda, the wife of Lewis

Blish, of Sturgeon Bay; Herman, who is employed by the Big Iron Company of Milwaukee; Fred, also of Milwaukee; and Henry, who is the secretary and treasurer of the Door County Abstract Company. The wife and mother passed away September 17, 1916, after a short illness.

Julius Bernhart has served as county supervisor, as school director and school treasurer and as an assessor for three years. He has always been loyal to the duties of the positions to which he has been called. In politics he is a democrat and fraternally he is connected with the Masons, being a loyal follower of that craft which is based upon mutual helpfulness and brotherly kindness. In matters of citizenship he is as true to his country as when he followed the stars and stripes upon the battle fields of the south.

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### FRANK H. MEUNIER.

FRANK H. Meunier, a resident farmer of Forestville township, living on section 35, claims Wisconsin as the state of his nativity, his birth having occurred in Oshkosh on the 7th of September, 1859. His parents were Alexander and Catherine (Marlier) Meunier, who were natives of Belgium, where the father followed the occupation of farming. He came to the United States in the early '40s, however, and made his way into the interior of the country, Oshkosh, Wisconsin, being his destination. He soon afterward began work as a farm hand and thus made his initial step in the business world in America. Later he removed to Brussels township, Door county, and with the money which he had saved from his earnings he purchased a farm of eighty acres, all covered with the native forest trees. In fact the conditions were those of pioneer life. All around him for miles stretched the dense forests, through which no roads had been made and which sheltered much wild game. The Indians, too, still lived in this section of the state and found good hunting grounds in the timbered regions. Alexander Meunier built a log house and continued to reside upon his farm in Brussels township throughout his remaining days, becoming one of the representative agriculturists of the community. His wife also died on the old homestead.

Frank H. Meunier spent his boyhood days in Brussels township and through the winter seasons pursued his education in the public schools, while in the summer months he worked on the farm. He continued to assist his father until the latter's death, when he and his brother Alexander took charge of the old homestead, which they cultivated together for fifteen years. On the expiration of that period Frank Meunier sold his interest in the property and bought eighty acres in Brussels township. Upon his new place he took up his abode and there remained for eleven years, after which he sold that property and bought his present farm of one hundred and twenty acres. He has cleared a part of this and has converted his place into a valuable farm property, equipped with many modern improvements and accessories.

In 1887 Mr. Meunier was united in marriage to Miss Mary Devillers, a daughter of Charles and Desire (Nenot) Devillers, who were natives of Belgium, while Mrs. Meunier was born in Lincoln, Wisconsin. To Mr. and Mrs. Meunier

have been born twelve children, namely: Charles, Zoe, Fred, Ellen, Frank, Alex A., Elsie, Marvin, Mabel, Libbie, Verna and Merlin.

In politics Mr. Meunier has always been a democrat and for two years he filled the office of assessor but has not been an office seeker. He stands, however, for public progress and improvement along many lines and his efforts result in bringing him merited success.

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#### ERNEST MACAUX.

Ernest Macaux is the owner of a farm of one hundred and nine acres, situated in Union township, not far from Brussels. This tract of land has been brought to a high state of cultivation through the efforts and the energy of the present owner, who cleared a part of it. He was born in Belgium, January 16, 1853, and is a son of Andrew and Mary (Micheau) Macaux, both of whom were natives of Belgium, in which country they were reared and married, and there the mother passed away. The father afterward came to the United States and made his home with his son John in Gardner township, Door county, where his death occurred.

Ernest Macaux spent his youthful days in Belgium, remaining in that country until he reached the age of thirty. Attracted by the opportunities of the new world, he came to the United States and established his home in Union township when all around him was the unbroken forest. He built a log cabin in the midst of the forest and upon his farm of one hundred and nine acres at once began the arduous task of developing the fields. He turned the first furrows and plowed his land, planted his crops and in due time gathered good harvests. As the years have passed he has continued the work of general farming and has won a substantial measure of success as the reward of his persistent effort.

In 1887 Mr. Macaux was married to Miss Tracie Grognet and they have become the parents of eight children: Edward; Mary, who died in 1906; Ida; Leona; Emil; Adele; Lucy; and Clara. With the exception of the one who has passed away all are yet under the parental roof. For more than a third of a century Ernest Macaux has resided in this county and has witnessed the many changes which have occurred, transforming the district from a wild and unimproved section into one of the populous and prosperous sections of the state. He has done much to further agricultural development and while promoting his individual interests has also contributed to the general progress and prosperity of the community.

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#### JULIUS C. LANGEMAK.

Julius C. Langemak, filling the office of city clerk of Sturgeon Bay, was born in Germany, October 25, 1853, a son of Carl and Julia (Mehr) Langemak. He spent the days of his boyhood and youth in the fatherland but elected to become an American citizen about the time he attained his majority. It was on the 4th of

June, 1874, that he arrived in the United States and through the following period of five years he engaged in teaching in Will and Vermilion counties of Illinois. In 1879 he arrived in Door county, Wisconsin, and again took up educational work, being continuously identified with the schools of this locality until May, 1914, when he was elected city clerk. He has taught school for a longer period than any other teacher in the state with the exception of two and has contributed much to the educational progress of Wisconsin, employing progressive methods which have rendered the schools an adequate preparation for life's responsible and practical duties. He has always taught in the country schools and has been principal of several graded schools. At length, however, he turned his attention from teaching to enter upon the duties of city clerk, to which position he was elected in 1914, and in the office he has made a most creditable record.

On the 25th of June, 1879, Mr. Langemak was united in marriage to Miss Idelle P. Moore, of Oregon, Illinois, a daughter of James Moore, who was a farmer. The children of this marriage are: Grace, the wife of Frank Surfus, of Sawyer, and the mother of five children; Arnold, who is dock agent at Sawyer and married Ethel Chapman, by whom he has one child; Beulah, the wife of Edward Shambau, of Sheboygan, and the mother of four children; James, living in Sturgeon Bay; and Grafton, at home.

The family are members of the Moravian church and are people of sterling worth, enjoying the high regard and goodwill of all with whom they have been brought in contact. Mr. Langemak is a Mason, holding membership in Algoma Lodge, No. 174, F. & A. M., and he is an active member of the Mystic Workers of the World, having served for the past four years as presiding officer. His political endorsement is given to the republican party. His has been a useful and well spent life and all who know him speak of him in terms of high regard.

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#### DELBERT E. BINGHAM.

Delbert E. Bingham is extensively interested in fruit lands in Wisconsin and his prominence in this field of labor is indicated in the fact that he has been honored with the presidency of the State Horticultural Society. His knowledge and experience are such as to give him place among the leading fruit growers, and the work that he has performed has constituted an example that many others have profitably followed. A native of Richland county, Wisconsin, he was born on the 21st of August, 1873, a son of George Elisha and Anna (Cheeney) Bingham, who were natives of New York and of Vermont respectively. As young people they came to Wisconsin and in this state George E. Bingham followed the occupation of farming, but at the time of the Civil war he put aside all business and personal considerations and responded to the country's call for troops. His father, George Bingham, also enlisted in defense of the Union and laid down his life on the altar of his country.

Delbert E. Bingham acquired a public school education and when but a boy became interested in fruit growing. He was employed by A. L. Hatch from 1891 until 1895 and in the spring of the latter year came to Door county, where he took charge of the fruit farm which Mr. Hatch was here developing. He started



DELBERT E. BINGHAM





with sixteen acres of European plums and one acre of cherries, planted in 1893. The following year a large number of plum trees were added to the orchard and in 1895 three acres more were planted to cherries. In 1897 he set out ten acres more in cherries and in 1896 he planted twelve acres of apples. He continued in active connection with Mr. Hatch until 1898, at which time he had developed about forty-five acres of tree fruit and twenty acres of small fruit. The following year Mr. Bingham started out independently as a fruit grower, purchasing fifty acres near Sturgeon Bay. He took over one forty-acre tract of the Hatch & Bingham orchards, which had covered eighty acres. He now has thirty acres in fruit at his home place and he also has large interests in several hundred acres of fruit land, of which he personally manages four hundred and twenty acres. From the beginning he has closely studied every phase of fruit growing relative to soil and climatic conditions as well as nursery stock, and his broad knowledge enables him to speak with authority upon what can best be produced in this section of the country with the most desirable results. His fruit has taken many prizes in county and state fairs and his crops rival any that are produced in Wisconsin. Mr. Bingham was one of the organizers and directors of the Fruit Growers Union, an organization which was formed for marketing the fruit. This phase of the business he has also studied and is perfectly familiar with the best methods of handling the crops. In 1911 he was elected president of the State Horticultural Society, in which position he continued for two years, and his work in behalf of that organization has been a strong feature in its success, for he brought to bear the broadest possible experience and sound judgment.

On the 29th of August, 1895, Mr. Bingham was married to Miss Musa Hatch, a daughter of A. L. Hatch, and they have become parents of two children, Gale and Murray.

Mr. Bingham belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternity and his religious faith is evidenced in his membership in the Congregational church. Politically, while he usually votes independently, he has leanings toward the republican party but he does not seek nor desire office, preferring to concentrate his undivided time and attention upon his business affairs. He has done farmers' institute work for nine years and every winter he lectures all over the state, being regarded as one of the fruit experts not only of Wisconsin but also of the country. Not only has he gained broad knowledge of horticulture in its every phase but has also gained success by the wisdom and enterprise which he has displayed in fruit raising and is today one of the prosperous residents of Sturgeon Bay.

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#### ALEXANDER DEGRAND.

Alexander Degrand, deceased, was for a long period one of the representative farmers of Door county, actively identified with the agricultural pursuits in Union township. He was born in Belgium, in December, 1837, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Degrand, who were also natives of that country, where the mother spent her entire life. The father there followed the occupation of farming and in his later years came to the United States, making his way at once to Door county, Wisconsin. He located in Union township, where he purchased a farm of forty

acres, being the first settler in the locality. His place was in the midst of a dense forest and no roads had at that time been laid out. Upon that farm the father spent his remaining days.

Upon the old homestead property in Union township Alexander Degrand continued with his father for a number of years and aided in the arduous task of developing new land and converting a wild forest tract into productive fields. He afterward worked in lumberyards in northern Wisconsin and in sawmills, but eventually returned to Union township and purchased forty acres of land. This he at once began to clear and cultivate, adding improvements in the way of log buildings, and as the years passed his labors wrought marked transformation in the appearance of the place. He continued thereon until he removed to Sturgeon Bay, where he conducted a hotel. However, he afterward returned to the farm, upon which his last days were passed, his death occurring April 23, 1890, when he was about fifty-three years of age.

It was in 1867 that Mr. Degrand was united in marriage to Miss Josephine Lawrence, a daughter of John and Mamie (Vandermill) Lawrence. She was born in Belgium and in her early girlhood became a resident of Wisconsin. The family crossed the Atlantic and settled in Green Bay and her father was employed in sawmill work at different places, spending his last days, however, in Sturgeon Bay, in the home of his daughter, Mrs. Degrand. By her marriage Mrs. Degrand had seven children: Isadora; Louis; Eugene, who was drowned March 14, 1913; Prosper; Alex; Eli; and Marv.

At his death Mr. Degrand left his widow in comfortable financial circumstances. She is now the owner of a fine farm in the midst of which are excellent buildings that furnish ample shelter for grain and stock, while her home is an attractive brick residence which she erected. Mr. Degrand was a progressive and representative citizen of his community and possessed many sterling traits of character, being loyal to the welfare of town and county, faithful in friendship and devoted to his family.

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#### HENRY MATHISON.

The Mathison family has been represented in Door county from pioneer times and upon the old homestead in Clay Banks township occurred the birth of Henry Mathison on the 26th of November, 1891. His parents, Math and Olena Mathison, came originally from Norway, having resided near Christiania. They arrived in the early '80s and the father purchased eighty acres of land which he at once began to develop and improve. Later he added twenty acres and he cleared and cultivated his farm, on which he erected commodious and substantial buildings. The work of improvement was steadily carried forward and his efforts brought deserved success. He is now living retired in La Crosse, Wisconsin, enjoying in well earned rest the fruits of his former toil. Since attaining the right of American franchise he has voted with the republican party and his entire career has been shaped according to the teachings of the Norwegian Lutheran church, of which he is a consistent member. But two children of his family are now living, Martin and Henry.

The latter was reared on the old homestead and two years were spent in traveling over the western part of the United States in the period of his early manhood. He began farming on his own account in 1911, when he was twenty years of age, purchasing the home place from his father. It is known as the Excellent View Stock Farm, a name that is indicative of its attractive situation, which commands a wide view of the surrounding country. The name is also indicative of the principal feature of his business, for he is engaged quite extensively in dairying, making a specialty of handling registered Guernseys.

On the 26th of November, 1912, Mr. Mathison was united in marriage to Miss Olga Jome, of Forestville, a daughter of Knut Jome, and they have two children, Eunice Exilda and Vivian Muriel. Mr. and Mrs. Mathison are consistent members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and are much interested in all that pertains to the moral progress of the community. Mr. Mathison supports the republican party, and while not an office seeker, he keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day and gives unfaltering allegiance to the party of his choice.

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#### WILLARD E. GAEDE.

Willard E. Gaede, who since 1902 has continuously and successfully engaged in the practice of law in Sturgeon Bay, has for the past eight years filled the office of circuit court commissioner and was elected district attorney in 1916. He was born in Eldora, Iowa, June 12, 1876, a son of Louis R. and Sarah J. (White) Gaede, who are natives of Chicago and of Massachusetts respectively. The latter is a daughter of Hilliard B. White, who became a pioneer settler of McGregor, Iowa, where he engaged in business as a wholesale merchant. Louis R. Gaede went to Iowa in early manhood and was in the employ of Mr. White, whose daughter he afterward married. Subsequently he turned his attention to manufacturing and he is now a resident of Burlington, Wisconsin.

The removal of the family to Burlington in his early boyhood enabled Willard E. Gaede to pursue his education in the public and high schools of that city, after which, having determined upon the practice of law as a life work, he entered the College of Northern Illinois and was graduated from the law department with the class of 1901. On the 1st of March, 1902, he arrived in Sturgeon Bay and after having passed the required bar examinations of both Illinois and Wisconsin he entered upon active practice here and has made steady progress in his profession. He has ever recognized the necessity of thorough preparation and has entered the courts well prepared to present his cause in strong and logical manner. For two terms he has filled the office of city attorney and for eight years he has been circuit court commissioner, discharging the duties of these positions in a most commendable and acceptable way. In 1916 he was elected to the office of district attorney by a majority of over one thousand.

On the 11th of November, 1908, Mr. Gaede was married to Miss Ruth Emily Washburn, of Sturgeon Bay, and they are prominently known in the social circles of the city, enjoying the warm regard of all with whom they have been brought in contact. Mr. Gaede is a Chapter Mason and has served as Royal Arch Captain

in the grand chapter. He has also been supreme counselor of the National Fraternal League, an insurance organization of Green Bay, has been grand tribune of the Knights of Pythias and a very active worker in that order, and is also connected with the Knights of Khorassan and with the Mystic Workers. The rules which govern his conduct are indicated in his membership in the Episcopal church. His political allegiance is given to the republican party, of which he has ever been a stalwart advocate since attaining his majority. Outside of the strict path of his profession he regards the pursuits of private life abundantly worthy of his best efforts.

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#### THOMAS C. PROCTOR, M. D.

Dr. Thomas C. Proctor, actively engaged in the practice of medicine in Sturgeon Bay, first took up his abode here in October, 1900. A decade later he left the city, but when two years had passed he returned and continues actively and successfully in the practice of his chosen profession, in which he displays creditable ability. He was born in Monroe City, Missouri, January 24, 1873, a son of Dr. Thomas and Mary L. (Bailey) Proctor, who were natives of Missouri and Kentucky respectively. The son acquired a public school education and afterward attended college at La Grange, Missouri, while later he was graduated from the military school at Mexico, Missouri, with the class of 1892. After reviewing the broad field of business with its many branches of activity, he determined upon the practice of medicine as a life work and entered the Washington University at St. Louis, where he completed the regular course in medicine with the class of 1895. He afterward attended the New York Post Graduate School and Hospital and throughout his professional career he has remained a close and discriminating student of the science of medicine, keeping in close touch with everything relative thereto. He lectured for a time in the Kansas City University Medical College and also in the Woman's Medical College of Kansas City, and for four years he engaged in practice there. He was also consulting chemist for the Kansas City, Fort Scott & Memphis Railway.

In October, 1900, Dr. Proctor came to Sturgeon Bay, where he entered upon the general practice of medicine, in which he continued until 1910. He afterward spent two years in Hannibal, Missouri, but in 1912 returned to this city, where he is now concentrating his attention and efforts upon the duties of a growing general practice. He is secretary of the Door County Medical Society. He also holds membership in the Wisconsin State Medical Society and the American Medical Association and thus keeps in touch with the trend of scientific thought, investigation and discovery.

On the 26th of October, 1898, Dr. Proctor was married to Miss Georgie M. Noel, a daughter of J. H. and Martha Noel, of Paris, Missouri. They have one child, Martha E., at home. Dr. Proctor is well known as an exemplary representative of the Masonic fraternity, holding membership in lodge and chapter, and he has filled all of the offices in the Knights of Pythias lodge. In politics he maintains an independent course, supporting men and measures rather than party

but keeping in touch with the trend of modern thought and opinion, for he does not lightly regard the duties and obligations of citizenship. In his chosen life work he has made steady progress and is most conscientious in the performance of all of his professional duties.

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#### ALBERT SCHLEY.

Albert Schley, who follows farming in Forestville township, gives his attention to the further development and improvement of a tract of eighty acres of land which was the old family homestead upon which he was born August 26, 1876, his parents being Julius and Henrietta (Witte) Schley. The father was born in Pomerania, which was also the birthplace of the mother. He left Germany when a young man and crossed the Atlantic to the new world, establishing his home in Forestville township, Door county, Wisconsin, purchasing the eighty acre tract of land upon which his son Albert now resides. He built thereon a log cabin and began the improvement of his farm, which has since remained his place of residence. He has retired from active farm work, however, and is now living with his son Albert at the age of seventy-eight years, while his wife has reached the age of sixty-two years. Since becoming a naturalized American citizen he has voted with the democratic party. His religious faith is that of the Lutheran church.

In the usual manner of farm bred boys Albert Schley spent his youthful days, dividing his time between the acquirement of a district school education and the work of the fields. He has never sought to change his occupation, for he has found it congenial and in the management of his farming interests is meeting with substantial success.

In October, 1902, Mr. Schley was married to Miss Louisa Metzky, a daughter of Godfrey and Anna Metzky, who were natives of Germany but cast in their lot with the early settlers of Door county, locating in Forestville, where Mrs. Schley was born. By her marriage she has become the mother of four children: Elmer, Elnora, Evelina and Walter. Both Mr. and Mrs. Schley are well known in Forestville township and enjoy the goodwill and high regard of many with whom they have been associated.

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#### REV. ALPHONS M. BROENS

During thirty years' service as pastor of St. Joseph's church at Sturgeon Bay Rev. Broens has done effective work in promoting Catholic interests in this locality. He was born at Weert, Holland, May 1, 1864, and is a son of Arnold and Anna (Becks) Broens, in whose family were twelve children, of whom five died in infancy. Three sons, Leo, Alphons and Lambert J., entered the priesthood but the last named is now deceased.

After attending the schools of his native town to the age of twelve years, Rev. Broens entered upon a college course at Weert and following his gradua-

tion in 1881 came at once to the United States. He then took up the study of philosophy in Notre Dame University of Indiana, where he remained until September, 1882, when he went to Cincinnati and for ten months was professor of Latin in St. Joseph's College, where he also taught mathematics. In September, 1883, he entered St. Francis Seminary near Milwaukee and completed the theological course in 1886. He afterward spent some time at the home of the bishop of Green Bay, Wisconsin, and in October of that year was appointed assistant pastor of the Catholic church at Marinette. After about a year there passed he came to Sturgeon Bay to assume his duties in connection with St. Joseph's parish on the 8th of September, 1887. Here he has done effective work in the improvement of the church property and in thoroughly organizing and promoting the church work. Under his direction a schoolhouse was erected in 1888 and opened on the 1st of October of that year. In 1890 the Sisters' residence was erected and at the same time the priest's house was enlarged and improved. A new stone residence was erected in 1913 and the church now has a membership of three hundred families. The work of the church has been greatly promoted through his untiring efforts and zeal and he has the trust, goodwill and cooperation of the Catholic people of Sturgeon Bay in large measure. He belongs to the Catholic Knights of Wisconsin and also to the Catholic Order of Foresters.

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#### EUGENE DELWICHE.

The farming interests of Door county have a worthy representative in Eugene Delwiche, who owns and operates a well improved place on section 12, Sevastopol township. He was born in Brussels township, Door county, Wisconsin, on the 30th of March, 1887, and is a son of Joseph and Rosie (Delfosse) Delwiche, who, though born in the United States, were of Belgian descent and were married in Kewaunee county, Wisconsin. For a few years after their marriage they resided on a farm in that locality but later removed to Oconto, Wisconsin, where the father was connected with a lumber mill until 1894. It was in that year that he brought his family to Door county and purchased a farm in Brussels township, whereon he made his home until called to his final rest May 8, 1916. His remains were interred in the Brussels cemetery. His widow is still living and continues to reside in Brussels township. Both held membership in the Catholic church and by his ballot he supported the republican party. There were eleven children born to this worthy couple, namely: Eugene, whose name introduces this sketch; Peter, living near Brussels; Mary, the wife of George Michael, of Brussels; Marcline, living with our subject; Irene and Jule, who make their home with their mother; Joseph, who died at the age of two years; and Victor, Henry, Rose and Hervan, all at home.

Eugene Delwiche was given the usual educational advantages of the country boy and attended school as opportunity afforded until sixteen years of age. He then worked for his father until his marriage and afterward engaged in operating a rented farm for one year. At the end of that time he purchased the homestead and to its cultivation and improvement devoted his energies until 1916, when he sold that place and purchased the southeast quarter of section 12,

Sevastopol township, where he now resides. He is an up-to-date farmer and is steadily prospering in his undertakings.

In 1909 Mr. Delwiche was united in marriage to Miss Mary Wautier, a daughter of Joseph and Josephine Wautier, both natives of Belgium and early settlers of Brussels township, this county, where they continue to make their home. Mr. and Mrs. Delwiche have four children: Celia, Lawrence, Wilmer and Gladys. The parents are communicants of St. Peter's and St. Paul's Catholic church and are among the highly esteemed citizens of the community in which they reside. Since attaining his majority Mr. Delwiche has affiliated with the republican party and he gives his support to every enterprise which he believes calculated to advance the public welfare.

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#### FRANK J. MOELLER.

Frank J. Moeller is an automobile dealer of Sturgeon Bay who is conducting a profitable and growing business. He was born in Sevastopol township, Door county, July 14, 1877, and is a son of Marcus and Pulchira (Dangel) Moeller, who were natives of Germany, born near Frankfort. The father came to America in the '60s and journeyed across the country to Door county which was then largely a pioneer district. He took up a homestead in Sevastopol township and began the improvement and cultivation of a farm, transforming wild land into rich and productive fields. He continued to cultivate his place until 1893, when he put aside active business duties and cares and took up his abode in Sturgeon Bay, his son taking charge of the farm. On locating in the city he purchased an entire block of ground where the Union Hotel now stands and began building there August 15, 1893. In November of that year the hotel was ready for occupancy and he continued to conduct a hotel and saloon throughout the remaining days of his life. He died in 1902, while his wife still resides in Sturgeon Bay.

Frank J. Moeller spent his boyhood and youth in Door county and remained with his parents until he attained his majority. He then began the manufacture of brick in Forestville, where he owned and operated a plant for five years. He next removed to Sturgeon Bay, where he engaged in the livery business until 1906. He then converted his business into an automobile garage, building one of the finest in the state. For some time he handled the Regal car and he now handles the Ford car, having the exclusive agency for Door county. His is the largest garage in the county being one hundred and twenty-six by ninety-six feet, and he conducts a general repair business. He also handles all kinds of accessories and is now liberally patronized, his business having become one of the profitable enterprises of Sturgeon Bay. Mr. Moeller is the first president of the Door County Auto Dealers Association and has the record of selling more cars in proportion to his contract than any dealer in the state up to May 1, 1917.

On January 7, 1902, Mr. Moeller was married to Miss Emma Zettel and they have become parents of three children: Emily, who was born in Forestville, December 24, 1904; Arthur, born in Sturgeon Bay, May 4, 1907; and Mercedes, born in Sturgeon Bay in 1910.

The religious faith of the family is that of the Catholic church and Mr.

Moeller belongs to the Catholic Order of Foresters, of which he is treasurer and the Knights of Columbus. His political support is given to the republican party and for one year he was chairman of the town board of Forestville, but he has never been an office seeker, preferring to concentrate his time and energies upon his business affairs, which have brought to him very gratifying success.

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#### CARL DE SOMBRE.

Carl De Sombre resides on section 27, Nasewaupee township, where he owns one hundred and twenty acres of land. His birth occurred in Prussia, Germany, on the 9th of January, 1865, and his parents came to this country with their son. His education was obtained in the schools of the fatherland and he also served for three years in the German army. Crossing the Atlantic to the new world, he took up his abode in Sheboygan county, Wisconsin, where he was employed in a tannery for seven years and on the expiration of that period came to Door county in 1894. He purchased eighty acres in section 21 and ten years later bought one hundred and twenty on section 27, Nasewaupee township, of which he cleared thirty acres and on which he has erected a commodious two story residence as well as substantial barns. In the conduct of his agricultural interests he has won a gratifying measure of success and is numbered among the representative farmers of the community.

As a companion and helpmate on life's journey Mr. De Sombre chose Miss Augusta Bahr, of Sheboygan, Wisconsin, by whom he has ten children, as follows: Carl, who was born in 1884 and is employed in the machine shops at Sheboygan Falls; Reinhardt, who follows farming in Nasewaupee township; Fred, employed in the chair factory at Sheboygan; William, a resident of Sheboygan; Hugo, who served in the United States navy for four years; and Anna, Lydia, August, Ella and George, all at home. Since becoming a naturalized American citizen Mr. De Sombre has supported the men and measures of the republican party, while his religious faith is that of the German Lutheran church. He is a man of genuine personal worth and enjoys the regard and esteem of all who know him.

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#### GEORGE JENSEN.

Throughout his active business life George Jensen, of Sevastopol township, has followed farming and has met with marked success in his chosen occupation. A native of Door county, he was born in Clay Banks township on the 11th of September, 1875, and is a son of Henry and Anna (Christianson) Jensen, who were born, reared and married in Denmark, where they continued to reside until after the birth of two of their children: Signe, now the wife of Matt Dier, of White Fish Bay; and John, also a resident of White Fish Bay, Wisconsin. It was in 1873 that the little family crossed the Atlantic to the United States and took up their residence in Door county, Wisconsin, the father purchasing a farm





CARL DESOMBRE AND FAMILY



in Clay Banks township, which he at once began to improve and cultivate. He was not long permitted to enjoy his new home, however, as he died here in 1880 and was buried near Cheeseville in Clay Banks cemetery. The mother is still living and now makes her home in Sturgeon Bay. There were three children born after the removal of the family to this county, namely: George, of this review; Anna, the wife of Harry Wertz, of St. Paul, Minnesota; and Tillie, the wife of George Rhode, of Sturgeon Bay.

George Jensen was educated in the district schools of this county, which he attended until fourteen years of age, in the meantime acquiring a good knowledge of farming. Later he worked for others until he had attained the age of twenty-five years and then purchased the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 21, Sevastopol township. He cleared and improved that tract but after residing thereon for twelve years sold the place and bought the south half of the southeast quarter of section 28 in the same township. Here he has continuously resided up to the present time and has made his place one of the best farms of the locality.

Mr. Jensen was married in 1903 to Miss Lillie Moore, a daughter of A. W. and Margaret Moore, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Ireland. They were early settlers of this county and resided in Sevastopol township, where Mrs. Moore still makes her home. Mr. Moore, however, is deceased and is buried in Bayside cemetery. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Jensen are Phyllis, Arvilla, Ivan, Vera, Ray and Dorothy. The family is one of prominence in the community where they reside and the parents hold membership in the Methodist church. Politically Mr. Jensen affiliates with the republican party and he has been called upon to serve as a member of the school board for several terms and is now treasurer of the same. He has also filled the offices of director and clerk and has always been found faithful to any trust reposed in him.

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#### MELTON O. BENTLEY, D. D. S.

Dr. Melton O. Bentley, successfully engaged in the practice of dentistry with offices at Sawyer, was born in Manitowoc county, this state, October 31, 1875. His parents, Stephen H. and Sarah (Oakley) Bentley, were natives of New York, where they were reared, educated and married. Removing westward about 1874, they first settled at Frankfort, Michigan, and after about two years became residents of Manitowoc county, Wisconsin. There the father took up the occupation of farming but in 1878 came to Door county, establishing his home in Clay Banks township. In 1881 he returned to Manitowoc county and in 1884 he became a resident of Waupaca county, this state, where he and his wife remained until later life, their last days, however, being passed in Sawyer, where the mother died in July, 1911. The father survived for two years, departing this life in July, 1913.

Dr. Bentley is indebted to the public school system of Wisconsin for his educational opportunities. He came to Door county in 1898 and for three years engaged in teaching school but regarded this merely as an initial step to other professional labor, and as soon as he could make arrangements he entered the

Milwaukee Medical College as a dental student and completed a course of study there with the class of 1904. For four years thereafter he practiced in Milwaukee and also devoted two years to the study of medicine. On the expiration of that period he came to Sawyer in May, 1908, and has here practiced since. He is displaying marked ability in his chosen calling, meeting all the requirements for able dental practice. His office is well equipped and he utilizes the most improved processes in the care of the teeth.

In 1900 Dr. Bentley was united in marriage to Miss Tessie Foate, of Sturgeon Bay, a daughter of A. J. and Rose (Arlt) Foate, and a high school graduate. They have three children: Virgil and Ardis, who are thirteen and ten years of age respectively; and Gail, who is one year old.

Dr. Bentley votes independently and does not care to ally himself with a party. He has been school commissioner for the past four years and the cause of education ever finds in him a warm friend, anxious and willing to do everything in his power to promote the interests of the public schools. He is a member of the Seventh Day Adventist church and is guided in all that he does by high and honorable principles.

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### JOHN BUENZOW.

Many sterling traits of character have won for John Buenzow the staunch friendship and high regard of those with whom he has been brought in contact. He makes his home on section 35, Egg Harbor township, where he owns and cultivates eighty acres of land. He was born in Germany in September, 1853, and is a son of Mr. and Mrs. John Buenzow, who were also natives of that country, where the mother passed away in 1864. Five years later, or in 1860, the father came to the new world and made his way across the country to Wisconsin, settling in Manitowoc county, where he engaged in farming, his remaining days being devoted to the cultivation of his fields. He died in 1883.

When John Buenzow was sixteen years of age he accompanied his father to the United States. He had pursued his education in the schools of Germany and in 1871 he arrived in Door county, where he obtained employment as a farm hand. He had no money at the time of his arrival and it was imperative that he find immediate employment. Carefully saving his earnings, by 1881 he had accumulated a sum sufficient to enable him to purchase a farm and he became the owner of a tract of land in Nasewaupee township. With characteristic energy he began cultivating and developing this place, upon which he resided until 1909. He then sold that property and removed to Egg Harbor township, where he bought eighty acres of land on section 35. He has wonderfully improved his farm and has continually cultivated its fields, from which he annually gathers good crops. He is also engaged in raising high grade stock and both branches of his business are proving profitable.

In April, 1881, Mr. Buenzow was united in marriage to Miss Albertina Golomoll and to them have been born ten children: Emma, Annie, John, Albert, Margaret, Ella, Frank and Otto, together with Charlie and William, who have passed away. The religious faith of the family is that of the Lutheran church

and in political belief Mr. Buenzow is a republican, always voting with the party yet never seeking office as the reward of party fealty. He has lived in Wisconsin for almost a half century and has therefore witnessed much of its growth and development, taking active part especially in promoting agricultural interests. Everywhere he is spoken of in tones of warm regard because of his upright life and his many sterling traits of character.

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### CAPTAIN CLIFFORD B. HART.

Captain Clifford B. Hart, deceased, was long prominently connected with the navigation interests on the Great Lakes and was a well known and valued resident of Sturgeon Bay. He became vice president of the H. W. Hart Company, which owned the Hart Line of steamboats, and in later years he was president of the Hart Transportation Company, continuing in active connection with the business until his life's labors were ended in death. He was born in Green Bay, Brown county, Wisconsin, November 30, 1839, a son of Edwin and Eliza J. (Glass) Hart. His father was born in New London, Connecticut, May 5, 1807, while the mother's birth occurred in Clarksville, Ohio. Edwin Hart was a carpenter, learning the trade in Ohio, to which state he went in early life. In 1830 he came to Wisconsin, settling at Fort Howard, where he was engaged in the building of the fort in the employ of the government. Later he turned his attention to the lumber business in Brown county and also became connected with steamboat interests. He was a prominent, active and influential citizen and for many years served as justice of the peace in Oconto, where his remaining days were passed. He made an excellent official, his rulings being strictly fair and impartial. C. B. Hart was reared and educated in Green Bay and in Oconto, where he remained with his parents until he attained his majority, but at the age of twelve years he began sailing on the Great Lakes and was captain of a ship when still quite young. His entire life's experience was along that line. He finally became a ship owner and in 1873 in company with H. W. Hart established the Hart Line. He became vice president of the company and sailed as a captain throughout the remainder of his life during those months when navigation is open. The brothers capitalized their company for one hundred and forty thousand dollars and operated the boats Fanny C. Hart, Eugene C. Hart, the C. W. Moore and the Welcome. The partnership was maintained until the death of H. W. Hart after which Captain C. B. Hart continued the business two years longer. He then sold his interests and came to Sturgeon Bay in 1905, where he organized the Hart Transportation Company, of which he became the president, with his wife as vice president, and in this business he continued until his demise, operating three boats. He was a well known figure at the ports along the Great Lakes and was considered an authority on many questions regarding navigation interests.

On the 25th of December, 1861, Captain Hart was married to Miss Harriet Ellen St. Ores, who was born at Mt. Carmel, Illinois, January 28, 1846, a daughter of Lewis and Mariette (Wheelock) St. Ores, who were natives of New York and came to Wisconsin in an early day, settling in Oconto, where the

father engaged in the lumber business until 1862. He then removed to California, where he continued in the lumber trade for a number of years and also engaged in mining, spending his remaining days in the Golden State, where he passed away in 1893. He had long survived his wife, who died in 1876. Captain and Mrs. Hart had two children: Lewis E., who was born in October, 1874, and died in March, 1879; and Eugene C., born December 7, 1880, who is now president and manager of the Hart Transportation Company. The family reside in a pleasant home at the corner of Cottage and Church streets.

Captain Hart was a member of the Congregational church and of various fraternal organizations. He attained the thirty-second degree in Masonry and belonged to the Elks and Odd Fellows Lodges. His political endorsement was given to the republican party. Those who knew him esteemed him as a man of genuine personal worth and he was prominently connected with the navigation interests which have constituted so important an element in the development of the state. He had many sterling qualities and his death, which occurred March 19, 1913, after a brief illness, was the occasion of deep and wide spread regret.

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### JULIUS KRETLOW.

Julius Kretlow, who is successfully farming on section 33, Forestville township, was born in Saagen, Schönwalde, Germany, December 12, 1858, a son of Carl and Minnie (Keasow) Kretlow, who were farming people of Germany.

Julius Kretlow spent his early boyhood in his native country but left Europe for the United States at the age of sixteen years and made his way to Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He secured employment on a dairy farm near there and afterward removed to Missouri, renting a farm near Bigelow. At a later period, however, he returned to Milwaukee and was again employed on a dairy farm. It was while residing there that he was married. For two years he was connected with the flour and feed business in Milwaukee and in 1882 he came to Door county, settling in Forestville township, where he purchased his present farm of one hundred and twenty acres situated on section 33. There were old buildings upon the place, but the spirit of progress which he has manifested has brought a marked transformation in the farm. He erected a new brick house and now has fine buildings also for the shelter of grain and stock. A determined purpose has enabled him to accomplish what he has undertaken and as the years have passed he has brought his fields to a high state of cultivation and carried on the farm work with excellent results.

On the 15th of April, 1879, Mr. Kretlow was married to Miss Minnie Heintz, a daughter of Ferd and Catharine (Schmidt) Heintz. Mrs. Kretlow was born in Milwaukee, while her father was a native of Schönwalde and her mother of Mettenheim, Germany. They came to the United States in 1854 and were married in Milwaukee. To Mr. and Mrs. Kretlow have been born ten children, namely: George; Alfred; Louisa; Julius, who died at the age of nine years; Otto; Edwin; Ella; Lillian; Annie; and Emily.

The religious faith of the parents is that of the Lutheran church, of which they are loyal supporters. Mr. Kretlow has concentrated his entire efforts and

attention upon farming interests since coming to Door county and for thirty-five years has lived upon his present farm, which has become one of the productive and valuable properties of the district through his unremitting efforts.

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#### EARL M. LA PLANT.

Earl M. La Plant, president of the Door County News Company, has been identified with journalistic interests since 1914. Successive stages of business development brought him to his present position and his entire course has been characterized by a wise use of time, talents and opportunities. He was born in Sturgeon Bay, April 1, 1882, and is a son of Mitchell Francis and Althea (Birmingham) La Plant, who were natives of Canada and of New York respectively. The father came to Sturgeon Bay in 1878 and was here married in 1880. His wife is a daughter of Andrew Birmingham, who was one of the early settlers of Door county, where he successfully followed farming for many years. Mitchell F. La Plant engaged in the conduct of a barber shop at Sturgeon Bay for twenty-six years and passed away in the year 1913, being still survived by his widow. They had two children, Earl M. and Pearl, the latter now the wife of John M. Harvey, of Milwaukee. Both are graduates of the Sturgeon Bay high school.

After completing his education Earl M. La Plant started upon his business career as proprietor of a five and ten cent store, which he established in 1903 and conducted for two years. He then opened a general store which he carried on for some time but put aside mercantile interests to accept public office, having been elected county clerk in 1912. The excellent record which he made in that position led to his reelection in 1914, so that he remained the incumbent in that office for four years. He had already served as alderman of the first ward and in fact was filling the position when elected county clerk.

In the year of his reelection to the office of county clerk Mr. La Plant became one of the organizers of the Door County News Company, which was incorporated on the 1st of July, 1914, for the conduct and publication of the Door County News. He became the president, with C. A. Lundberg as vice president and W. E. Wagener as secretary and treasurer. The company issues a ten or twelve page paper, all home print. The office is one of modern equipment, being supplied with a linotype machine and every other facility to advance the interests of the business. The company also does a full line of job printing and is accorded a liberal patronage in that connection, while the News has won a large circulation. Mr. La Plant is recognized as a man of firm purpose and indefatigable energy who carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes.

Mr. La Plant was married to Miss Alberta Rysdorp, of Sturgeon Bay, a daughter of John and Jennie (Boer) Rysdorp, of Grand Haven, Michigan, who became early settlers of Door county. Mr. and Mrs. La Plant became the parents of two children, John Mitchell and Shirley. After an illness of two years Mrs. La Plant died February 24, 1917. Fraternally he is connected with the Masonic lodge, chapter and council and in his life exemplifies the beneficent spirit of the craft. He has served as a past chancellor in the Knights of Pythias

lodge and he is a member of the Congregational church. He also belongs to the Pleasure Park and Drive Association, of which he is the secretary. In politics he is a republican and he keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day. In every relation of life he has measured up to high standards of manhood and citizenship and his influence is always on the side of progress and improvement.

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#### ALBERT KALMBACH.

Albert Kalmbach, prominently and successfully identified with commercial fishing at Sturgeon Bay for many years, in which connection he has built up a business of large extent and importance, came to this state from Pennsylvania, his birth having occurred in Hollidaysburg, Blair county, January 12, 1851. His parents, Godfrey and Christina (Sager) Kalmbach, were natives of Germany and about 1845 came to the new world, hoping to enjoy better business opportunities on this side of the Atlantic. Mr. Kalmbach had previously conducted a hotel in Germany and he continued in the same line of business in America for a time, opening a hotel at Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania. Five years later he removed with his family to Cleveland, Ohio, and after a year came to Door county, Wisconsin, and took charge of a boarding house at Washington Island for J. W. Crow, who owned the harbor there. It was one of the most important harbors on the Great Lakes at that time, being a center of navigation interests and the fishing industry, great quantities of fish being there salted and shipped to various points. Mr. Kalmbach conducted his boarding house for four years and then removed to the southern part of the island, where he turned his attention to farming, his home being at Detroit Harbor, where he carried on general agricultural pursuits from 1860. Both he and his wife reached an advanced age, the former being eighty-seven years and the latter eighty-six years old when called by death. In their family were twelve children, of whom seven passed away in early life. Three of the number reached adult age but are now deceased, namely: Mary, who became the wife of Jacob Richter, both having now passed away; Minnie, who was the wife of H. W. Davis, for many years manager of the Blue Line Railroad of Cleveland, Ohio, but also now deceased; and Susan, who was the wife of Andrew Olsen. Those living are: Michael F., a resident of Duluth, Minnesota; and Albert.

The last named was a little lad of but six summers when with his parents he made the trip on the old side-wheeler City of Cleveland to Washington Island. His environment for four years was that of the boarding house, after which he enjoyed the free, open life of the farm for a time. He attended the district schools and at the age of eighteen he spent a winter season as a student in the Green Bay high school. Previous to this, however, he had begun earning his living as a fisherman, being at the time but sixteen years of age. It was then customary to use the "float-and-stone system" for net fishing, the nets being dropped from one of the old-time open sailboats. His catch was marketed at Washington Harbor and in following this pursuit he met with various hardships and sometimes faced grave dangers. He afterward operated the schooner Lettie



May for his brother in buying and selling fish, and later he established a wholesale fish business at Sturgeon Bay, where he has since remained. In the meantime he had passed through the era of many changes in methods of fishing, in which connection a contemporary writer has said: "He has kept abreast of the times, adopting the different methods as they have presented themselves, and discarding the old ways for the modern aluminum cork, steam lifters, gasoline lifters, steam tugs and gasoline boats. Although he began his career in the old school, he has been progressive and has always been ready to test new devices and give a trial to inventions. At the outset of his fishing experience he worked ten years for his brother, Michael F. Kalmbach, and then continued for different firms until 1893, when he embarked in business on his own account." It was in that year he removed to Sturgeon Bay. He had previously occupied the old Washington Island home for many years and continued its owner until the fall of 1913, when he sold it. In the twenty-four years of his residence in Sturgeon Bay he has developed a business of large and profitable proportions. He has handled an average of six hundred tons of fresh fish and a large amount of salt fish. He has thoroughly modern equipment for handling the trade and conducts both a retail and wholesale business.

On the 20th of November, 1879, Mr. Kalmbach was united in marriage to Miss Dora C. Higgins, a daughter of William R. Higgins, and they have become parents of a son and three daughters: Morris, who is connected with the engineering department of the Wisconsin Telephone Company of Milwaukee and married Miss May Carpenter; Jessie, the wife of Wilfred B. Chase, living in Madison, Wisconsin; Mabel, the wife of William J. Spencer, of Saginaw, Michigan; and Ethel, at home.

The family hold membership in the Congregational church and in the social circles of Sturgeon Bay Mr. and Mrs. Kalmbach have long been widely and favorably known. In politics Mr. Kalmbach is a republican. He belongs to the National Fraternal League of Neenah, Wisconsin, and is a charter member of the Royal Arcanum of Sturgeon Bay. His friends, and they are many, speak of him in terms of high regard and it is a delight to them to induce him to enter upon a series of reminiscences concerning his experiences and the developments of the fishing industry. He is at all times a congenial companion, courteous in manner and kindly in spirit. A resident of Door county from early boyhood, his memory forms a connecting link between the primitive past and the progressive present.

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#### RUDOLPH A. WOERFEL, D. D. S.

Dr. Rudolph A. Woerfel is a comparatively young man but already has attained success and prominence in the field of dental practice that many an older representative of the profession might well envy. Door county claims him as a native son. He was here born on the 4th of April, 1887, a son of Antone and Augusta (Mills) Woerfel, natives of Germany and of Manitowoc county, Wisconsin, respectively. The father came to Door county in 1867 and was proprietor of one of the early sawmills here. He began operations at Little Sturgeon and

afterward removed to Jacksonport, while finally he became a resident of Forestville. He had the first well drilling machinery in the county and for a long period was engaged in the pump manufacturing business and in wagon making. In 1892 he removed to Sawyer, where he embarked in the hotel business, in which he continued until his demise in the year 1895. He was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and of the Sons of Herman. His widow still survives. Antone Woerfel was long and actively identified with industrial interests in this county and contributed in substantial measure to the promotion of its business interests.

Dr. Woerfel, spending his youthful days under the parental roof, mastered the branches of learning taught in the public schools and was afterward graduated from Marquette University at Milwaukee, where he completed a course in the dental department with the class of 1909. He first located for practice at Eagle River, Wisconsin, where he remained for four years, and in 1913 he opened his office at Sawyer, where he has since remained. He has a well equipped office supplied with all the latest dental devices and appliances, and in the use of the delicate little instruments he is an expert. His work has been highly satisfactory and has gained for him the liberal patronage which he now enjoys.

Dr. Woerfel also occupies an enviable position in public regard because of those qualities of manhood and citizenship which in every land and clime awaken confidence and respect. He guides his life by the teachings of the Congregational church, in which he holds membership, and he is also identified with the Masons and the Knights of Pythias. Politically he maintains an independent course. He is interested in all the forces which work for the benefit of the community and the uplift of the individual. He organized the Scout Troop 3 in 1915 for the Congregational church and was scout master for a year. He does everything possible to surround boys with those influences which work for the upbuilding of character and his interests are broad and varied, while his activities have been resultant.

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#### RICHARD A. NOELCK.

Richard A. Noelck, actively engaged in the real estate business at Sturgeon Bay, was born in Chicago, June 17, 1880, a son of Adolph and Amelia Noelck, both of whom died during the infancy of their son Richard. He was reared in his native city and there acquired a public school education. When his textbooks were put aside he turned his attention to the dry goods business and he has had at different times experience in the field of banking, of real estate and insurance. In 1909 he came to Sturgeon Bay and purchased a farm near Baileys Harbor, which he has since devoted to fruit and dairy interests. It is splendidly equipped for carrying on business along those lines and his broad experience, practical knowledge and efficiency enable him to speak with authority upon questions relating to both dairying and horticultural pursuits. He likewise conducts one of the leading real estate offices of Sturgeon Bay and has carried on business there since 1912. He keeps thoroughly informed concerning the property that is upon the market and its value and he is thus able to assist his clients in making judicious



*Richard A. Noelsch*



purchases and profitable sales. Into still another field he has extended his efforts, for he has been engaged in the music business since June, 1915. He carries a general line of musical instruments and musical merchandise and his trade has constantly increased.

In 1908 Mr. Noelck was married to Miss Hedvig Olsen, a native of Moss, Norway, and they have two children: Richard, six and one-half years of age; and Hallward, aged four and one-half years. Mr. Noelck is prominent in Masonic circles, holding membership in Edgewater Lodge, No. 901, F. & A. M., of Chicago; Wiley M. Egan Chapter, No. 126, R. A. M., of Chicago; the Knight Templar Commandery of Green Bay; Wisconsin Consistory, A. & A. S. R.; Tripoli Temple of the Mystic Shrine of Milwaukee; and the Eastern Star. He is likewise identified with the Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias, the Knights of Khorassan and the Elks. He takes an active interest in boating and it was he who organized the Peninsula Club, a social club for the men of the town, in 1914. His political endorsement is given to the republican party. He possesses social qualities which render him popular and ability which makes for leadership in everything that he undertakes. He has steadily progressed in business and his enterprise and determination have brought him into prominent commercial relations. What he undertakes he accomplishes, for in his vocabulary there is no such word as fail. He is determined and persistent and step by step he has advanced, winning material success and also gaining the goodwill and confidence of those with whom he has been associated.

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### JULIUS SCHOENROCK.

Julius Schoenrock is a well known farmer residing on section 28, Nasewaupee township, where his birth occurred on the 9th of September, 1879, his parents being Fred and Wilhelmina Schoenrock. The father, who was born in Germany, January 3, 1830, emigrated to the United States in young manhood and took up his abode in Door county, Wisconsin, in 1872. Here he purchased, cleared and improved a tract of land and his labors as an agriculturist have been attended with a most gratifying measure of success. He served for some time as school director and he is widely known as one of the venerable and highly esteemed old settlers of the community. In the year 1872 he married Miss Wilhelmina Pamkaph, who was born in Germany in June, 1839, and was brought to the new world in childhood. It was only two years after her arrival in this country that she became acquainted with Fred Schoenrock. She died on the 13th of January, 1908, and her remains were interred in the Shoemaker cemetery. Her children were six in number, namely: Frank, who is a resident of Los Angeles; Anna, living in Milwaukee; Julius, of this review; Laura, who is the wife of William Busse; Minnie, who gave her hand in marriage to Frank Whiple, of Los Angeles; and Ferdinand, who passed away in 1911, leaving a wife and one child.

Julius Schoenrock was reared to manhood on a farm and early became familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. Farming has since claimed his time and energies and he is busily engaged in the cultivation of a tract of eighty acres on section 28, Nasewaupee township, the

well tilled fields yielding rich crops annually. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Produce Company, the Farmers Elevator Company and the Sawyer & Western Telephone Company, of which he is likewise a director.

On the 25th of February, 1909, Mr. Schoenrock was united in marriage to Miss Bertha Marx, of Sheboygan county, Wisconsin, who was born September 27, 1883, and is a daughter of Peter Marx. To them have been born three children, namely: Linda, who was born January 23, 1910; Adeline, whose birth occurred December 28, 1912; and Lorna, born September 11, 1914.

In his political views Mr. Schoenrock is a staunch republican and for two terms he has ably served as town treasurer. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the German Lutheran church of Sawyer, and his life in every relation has been such that he fully merits the high regard and esteem which is accorded him.

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#### CLYDE M. STEPHENSON.

Clyde M. Stephenson, well known in financial circles in Sturgeon Bay, entered upon his career in connection with banking in 1906 and in May, 1914, was elected to his present position as cashier of the Merchants Exchange Bank. He was born November 3, 1884, in the city where he still resides, his parents being S. R. and Jennie E. (Heaney) Stephenson, both of whom were natives of New York. They arrived in Sturgeon Bay in the '50s and the father, who was a marine engineer, continued his residence here until his death, which occurred in 1888. His widow survived him for more than a quarter of a century and passed away on the 6th of December, 1915.

At the usual age Clyde M. Stephenson became a pupil in the public schools and passed through consecutive grades to his graduation from the high school with the class of 1903. He afterwards spent three years in Lawrence University and thus liberal education well qualified him for life's practical and responsible duties, his thorough training constituting a broad basis upon which to rear the superstructure of his subsequent success. He has always devoted his attention to the line in which he embarked in early manhood. It was in 1906 that he secured a clerical position in the Merchants Exchange Bank and in that institution he has worked his way steadily upward, mastering the duties of each position and thus gaining that thorough understanding of the banking business so necessary in one who essays its administrative direction and executive control. He was called to the position of cashier in May, 1914, and has since served in that capacity.

On the 10th of June, 1911, Mr. Stephenson was married to Miss Belle Bohnenkamp, of Escanaba, Michigan, a daughter of Henry Bohnenkamp, and they have one child, Janet, who is in her second year. In politics Mr. Stephenson maintains an independent course, voting for men and measures rather than party. He served as supervisor for one year and is now serving as alderman from the first ward. Fraternally he is connected with the Masons and the Knights of Pythias and in the former organization has taken the degrees of lodge, chapter and council, making an excellent record by reason of his exemplification of the

splendid principles upon which the order is founded. Mr. Stephenson has spent his entire life in Sturgeon Bay and that his course has ever been worthy of confidence and regard is indicated in the large number of his friends who have known him from his boyhood to the present.

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### JAMES JIRTLE.

Many countries have furnished representatives to the citizenship of Door county, including Bohemia, several of whose sons have become very substantial and valued residents of the county and have contributed in large measure to its upbuilding and progress. Among this number is James Jirtle, who was born September 16, 1861, and was a lad of nine years when his parents, George and Mary Jirtle, left their native country and brought their family to the new world. They did not tarry on the Atlantic coast but proceeded at once into the interior of the country and the father purchased forty acres of land, which he at once began to farm. As his financial resources increased he added to his original purchase a tract of eighty acres and with the aid of his sons he cleared the entire farm, which at first was covered with a dense growth of timber that must be cut down and disposed of ere the plow could turn the furrows that preceded the gathering of later harvests. James Jirtle cut wood from the age of eight years and thus aided in clearing and developing the old homestead. For an extended period the father was identified with agricultural interests in the county, where he passed away on the 14th of April, 1908, while his wife died November 25, 1890. Both were buried in the Catholic cemetery at Algoma. They had a family of eight children, namely: George and Conrad, living in Clay Banks township; Elizabeth, who is the wife of Matt Hruska, of Rapid River, Michigan; James, of this review; Joseph, a resident of Kewaunee, Wisconsin; Mary, who gave her hand in marriage to Frank Shillin, now deceased; Frank, of Algoma, Wisconsin; and Peter, living in Chicago Heights, Illinois.

Little opportunity was given James Jirtle to attend school, so that he is practically a self-educated as well as self-made man. In the school of experience, however, he has learned some valuable lessons and he early realized the worth of industry, perseverance and diligence. As stated, he began to cut wood on his father's place at the age of eight and from that time forward aided in every phase of the farm work. He began farming on his own account in 1884 on the old homestead and in the intervening years his work has been carried forward with splendid results. He has improved the place with a beautiful residence and other attractive and substantial buildings which furnish ample shelter for grain and stock and which indicate his progressive spirit. The farm is bearing a good profit through the excellent crops which are annually gathered and in all of his work Mr. Jirtle is most practical.

On the 16th of April, 1890, occurred the marriage of Mr. Jirtle and Miss Katie Strnad, also a native of Bohemia, whence she came to the United States at the age of nineteen years. It was in Door county that she became acquainted with Mr. Jirtle and to their marriage have been born seven children, namely:

Rosa; Joe; William; Caroline; Wenzel; Libbie, who died in infancy; and Clarence. All the living children are at home.

The parents hold membership in the Catholic church of Algoma and Mr. Jirtle is a stalwart supporter of the democratic party, being one of the recognized local leaders. He has served as committeeman of his township and he does everything in his power to promote democratic successes. He has served as supervisor, also as road overseer for several years and for eleven years was school treasurer of district No. 1. He has also been town treasurer for the past four years and has made an excellent record as a public official, seeking ever the welfare and upbuilding of the community, while his duties are discharged with marked promptness and fidelity.

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#### HENRY SCHMELZER.

Henry Schmelzer is widely known as a successful cheese manufacturer, in which business he has engaged for the past twelve years, but it was in 1912 that he purchased his present cheese factory and general store at Vignes. He was well qualified by liberal educational training for the work which now engages his attention and he has done much to further the development of the county in this regard. He was born September 22, 1885, in Forestville township, a son of William and Minnie Schmelzer. The father was born in Manitowoc county, Wisconsin, in 1861 of German stock. For seventeen years he lived in his native county and then came to Door county in 1878. He not only became an active factor in its agricultural interests but also contributed in no small measure to its public progress and acceptably filled several local offices. He served as assessor for seven terms and was clerk of the school district for five years. At all times his political allegiance has been unfalteringly given to the republican party, while his religious faith is that of the Catholic church, his membership being with the Forestville parish. His wife was born in Germany and they became the parents of ten children, namely: Henry, of this review; John, a resident of Forestville; Frank; George; Anne, who is the wife of Joe Shoemaker; Ed; Tressie; Julia; Josephine; and Louise.

Spending his youthful days in his father's home, Henry Schmelzer attended the public schools of Forestville and later pursued a dairy course in the State University of Wisconsin at Madison, gaining much valuable knowledge concerning the scientific methods of caring for cattle and reckoning on their productiveness in relation to dairy products. Becoming thoroughly proficient in the matter of cheese making, he has devoted the past twelve years to that business and in 1912 he purchased the cheese factory at Vignes together with the general store and has since conducted business along those lines, winning a liberal patronage, so that his annual income is now gratifying.

On the 20th of October, 1908, Mr. Schmelzer was married to Miss Iva Brada, of Forestville, and they have one child, Ray, born February 20, 1914. The parents are members of the Catholic church of Forestville. Mr. Schmelzer exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the republican party and keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the



day. He is a thoroughly alert and energetic young business man, with comprehensive and accurate knowledge of cheese making, and his business interests are carefully and successfully conducted.

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#### CAPTAIN FORDEL HOGENSON.

With various activities Captain Fordel Hogenson has been identified. When but twelve years of age he began learning the carpenter's trade and followed that business for a number of years. He has also been connected with navigation interests and with general agricultural pursuits and is now largely giving his time and attention to the conduct of the Evergreen Beach Hotel of Ephraim. He was born in Melfjord, Norway, April 12, 1849, a son of Hogen and Dorothy (Fordelson) Johnson, who were natives of Norway and came to America with their family in 1873. The father was a farmer by occupation and on crossing the Atlantic became a resident of Door county, Wisconsin. He took up his abode at Ephraim, where he remained for a time, and afterward removed to Sister Bay, purchasing land near there in Liberty Grove township. With characteristic energy he began to develop and improve his place and continued its cultivation throughout his remaining days, his death occurring in 1890. His widow survived him for five years, passing away in 1895.

Fordel Hogenson was connected with both carpentering and fishing in his native country. As stated, he began to learn the carpenter's trade when a youth of twelve and continued to work at his trade in America for seven years. He also followed farming in this country for five years. He was a man of twenty-six years when he came to the new world and cast his lot with the settlers of Door county, Wisconsin. After devoting considerable time to carpentering and to farming he built a vessel and began sailing on the lakes. Later he bought another boat and he and his sons engaged in sailing for five years. In 1897, however, he turned his attention to the hotel business, starting in a small way, but found that in order to accommodate his patrons he had to enlarge his quarters and today he is the owner of one of the excellent hotels of Ephraim, called the Evergreen Beach Hotel, furnishing accommodations for eighty people. He has continuously managed the hotel and has made it a very popular resort. In addition he owns forty acres of land, which he cultivates, raising thereon many of the vegetables used in the hotel and also grain.

On the 23d of April, 1875, Captain Hogenson was united in marriage to Miss Lena Raenertson and they became the parents of seven children, namely; Herman, Reinert M., Nels B., Fred E., Lizzie, Sam and Lena G., of whom Lizzie and Lena G. are deceased. The wife and mother passed away in 1887 and the Captain was married again in May, 1889, his second union being with Thonet Tonason.

In his political views Captain Hogenson is a republican and he has filled the office of road overseer for two years. His religious belief is evidenced in his membership in the Moravian church, to the teachings of which he is ever loyal. The hope of bettering his financial condition brought him to the new world and he has never regretted the change which he made. Here he has found good

opportunities and as the years have gone on he has steadily progressed, making for himself an enviable position in business circles, being now the possessor of a handsome property and a comfortable competence.

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#### CHARLES B. WALKER.

Charles B. Walker, one of the representative farmers of Door county, residing on section 21, Sevastopol township, is one of Wisconsin's native sons, his birth occurring at Sturgeon Bay, July 20, 1856. His parents, John and Eliza Walker, were natives of England and Canada respectively and were married in the latter country, whither the father had removed during his youth. About 1852 they came to Door county, Wisconsin, and for the following five years made their home at Sturgeon Bay. Mr. Walker then took a homestead in Nasewaupee township, which he cleared and improved and continued to reside thereon until his death. He was killed by a falling tree about 1860 and his estate was the first probated in Door county. His widow continued to reside on the homestead for several years and afterward married Martin Peters, who was drowned. One child was born of this union. For her third husband she married Henry Martin, one of the early settlers of this county, and they continued to reside in Sevastopol township until her death. Her remains were interred in Bayside cemetery. There were six children born of the last marriage. The children of the first union were as follows: two sons who died in infancy; Jane, who died at the age of seven years; Elias, who died at the age of nineteen years; John, who made his home in Chicago and died in 1913, but whose widow and three of whose children now live in Sturgeon Bay, while two other children live in Chicago; Eliza, the wife of Thomas Melville, of Sevastopol township, and Charles B., of this review.

During his boyhood and youth the last named attended the common schools, where he pursued his studies until twelve years of age and then worked on the home farm until he had attained the age of twenty-four. A year later he was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Schumacher, a daughter of Louis and Rhodie Schumacher, early settlers of Nasewaupee township. Her mother is deceased and lies buried in a cemetery on a part of the old home farm, and her father died in July, 1917. To Mr. and Mrs. Walker have been born nine children, namely: Jenervie, the wife of Julius Zettel, of Sevastopol township; John, who is operating the home farm; Charles, also a resident of Sevastopol township; Pearl, the wife of Robert Stephenson, of the same township; Jennie, the wife of Fred Weigand, of Sevastopol township; Henry and Lloyd, both of whom are in the army; and Charlotte and Lettie, at home.

About the time of his marriage Mr. Walker purchased forty acres of land in Sevastopol township, which he cleared and improved, and lived thereon for a few years. He then bought an eight acre tract, which he sold in 1899, and at that time purchased the north half of the southwest quarter and the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter of section 21, Sevastopol township, which he has since converted into a highly cultivated and well improved farm. He is one of the self-made men of the community and all that he has acquired has come to



CHARLES H. WALKER AND FAMILY



him through his own well directed efforts. He supports the men and measures of the republican party and has taken quite an active part in local politics. For the past eight years he has efficiently served as constable, was a member of the township board two terms and has served as a member of the school board several times. He is widely and favorably known in this county, where his entire life has been passed, and he well merits the esteem in which he is held.

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### JOSEPH E. COCHENNET.

Joseph E. Cochennet has won gratifying success as a farmer and has also been connected with industrial interests of Nasewaupee township. He was born in Gibson, Wisconsin, April 17, 1858, but his parents, who were of Swiss descent, passed the greater part of their lives in Manitowoc county. He received a public school education and in 1876, when about eighteen years old, came to Door county, where for four years he worked for A. W. Lawrence. In 1881 he invested his savings in one hundred and twenty acres of state land and erected a fine two story brick house, a large barn and other buildings and has also bought a farm for his son of two hundred and twenty acres on section 21, Nasewaupee township. The improvements on his place are thoroughly modern and everything is kept in the best of repair. His labors as a farmer have yielded him a competence and he is also a director and stockholder in the Farmers Elevator at Sawyer. He likewise helped to organize the local telephone company and in the '90s erected a cheese factory in his locality. It was also due in part to his efforts that rural route No. 3 was secured.

In the spring of 1881 Mr. Cochennet was married to Miss Ellen Lusier of Mishicot, Wisconsin, who was born in 1859. Their children are: Julia, who is now Mrs. John Mossemann, of Milwaukee; Louis, who is a farmer in Nasewaupee township; John, a resident of Oconto Falls; Adeline, the wife of John Schultise, of Nasewaupee township; and Oscar, Lucy, Elizabeth and Elmer, all of whom are at home.

Mr. Cochennet endorses the principles of the democratic party and for twenty-two years served as assessor while for one year he held the office of side supervisor. He has invariably discharged his official duties capably and conscientiously and the confidence reposed in him has been well merited. Fraternally he is connected with the Masonic Order and with the Eagles. In many ways his community has profited by his enterprise, sound judgment and public spirit and he is deservedly held in high esteem.

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### CHRISTIAN H. NELSON.

Christian H. Nelson, a resident of Sturgeon Bay, is engaged in farming and fruit growing and that he is an active factor in municipal affairs is indicated in his present service as a member of the city council. Widely and favorably known, his life record cannot fail to prove of interest to many of his fellow

townsmen. He was born in Norway, June 18, 1873, and is a son of Nels and Inger (Anderson) Nelson, who were natives of the land of the midnight sun. The parents came to America in 1888, and the father, who had previously learned shoemaking in his native land, settled in Chicago, where he worked at his trade until his death, which occurred May 2, 1898. He survived his wife by only two weeks, as she died on the 22nd of April.

Christian H. Nelson was a lad of fifteen years when he accompanied his parents on their removal to the new world and his education, which was begun in the schools of Norway, was continued in the public schools of Chicago. He remained with his parents until they passed away when he was twenty-five years of age. He then began sailing on the Great Lakes and removed to Sturgeon Bay, where he established his home but sailed out of Chicago. In 1900 he invested his earnings in fifteen acres of land within the city limits and has since engaged in fruit growing. He has six acres in cherries and one acre in currants and also raises strawberries. For the past eight years he has successfully engaged in fruit growing and farming upon his place. He was one of the organizers of the Fruit Growers Association and he has served as a director of the Fruit Exchange. He has put all of the buildings on his place and now has a splendidly improved property, which is the evidence of his industry, his economy and his life's well directed energy and thrift.

In August, 1904, Mr. Nelson was married to Miss Hannah Hendricks, a daughter of Ole and Astri (Benson) Hendricks. The father came to America in boyhood, crossing the Atlantic with his parents when about fifteen years of age. He removed to Door county in 1867 and engaged in farming in Sturgeon Bay township, where he and his wife still reside. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson became the parents of three children but all died in infancy. Their religious belief is that of the Moravian church, in the work of which they take an active and helpful part, Mr. Nelson now serving as the chairman of the board of trustees. In politics he is a republican and he is now a member of the city council, which position he has filled for four years. He gives thoughtful and earnest consideration to questions of general moment and exercises his official prerogatives in support of all plans which he believes will enhance the public good.

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#### GEORGE J. DE KEYSER.

George J. De Keyser, a resident farmer of Union township, is the owner of an excellent tract of land on which are many modern improvements. He was reared to agricultural life and has always continued in the same line of business, his intelligently directed efforts bringing him a substantial measure of success. He was born in Union township February 20, 1882, and is a son of Joseph and Matilda (Patris) De Keyser, the former a native of Brussels, Belgium, while the mother's birth occurred in Liege, the city which first felt the brunt of German oppression in the present war. The father left Brussels with his father, Gabriel De Keyser, and his brothers and sisters, sailing for the United States in 1854 in a sailing vessel which ultimately dropped anchor in the harbor of Quebec. The family then proceeded up the St. Lawrence river and on to Green

Bay, Wisconsin, soon afterward settling in Union township, Door county, where Gabriel De Keyser secured eighty acres of government land. Not a furrow had been turned nor an improvement made upon the place and in fact a dense growth of forest trees had to be cleared away ere the land could be brought under the plow. He built a log house and the family began living in true pioneer style upon this place. The grandfather continued his farming operations there until his later years, and passed away at the age of eighty-six, having long survived his wife who died at the age of sixty-five. Their son, Joseph De Keyser, eventually became owner of the farm property, and added to the old homestead until he was the possessor of three hundred acres of valuable and highly improved land. He is still living in the county at the age of eighty years, but his wife died three years ago at the age of sixty-seven. His political endorsement has always been given to the republican party since he attained the right of American franchise.

The boyhood days of George J. De Keyser were spent upon the old home farm in Union township, and after mastering the branches of learning taught in the district schools he spent one year in the Green Bay high school. He started upon his business career as an employe of the Pierre-Virlee Company of Brussels township, remaining with them as clerk in their store for five years. He then returned to the old home place, a part of which he now owns. Upon this he has erected new buildings and has carried forward the work of further improvement and development with the result that his labors have brought good returns, classing him with the successful and representative agriculturists of the community.

In 1904 Mr. De Keyser was married to Miss Josephine Massardt, a daughter of John B. and Eliza (Quartimont) Massardt, who were natives of Belgium, where Mrs. De Keyser was also born. They have become parents of seven children, Martha, Clarence, Leona, Georgia, Louise, Anna and Lizzie.

Politically Mr. De Keyser is a republican, active in the local ranks of the party, and for four years he served as chairman of the board of Union township. He belongs to St. Mary's Catholic church, is deeply interested in its work and for ten years was its secretary.

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#### FRANK ANGERER.

Among the substantial citizens that Austria has furnished to Door county is numbered Frank Angerer, who is living on section 39, Egg Harbor township, where he owns and operates one hundred and forty acres of good land, being now known among the representative farmers of his district. He was born in Austria in February, 1864, and is a son of Joseph and Agnes (Maurer) Angerer, who were natives of that country. The father followed the occupation of farming in Austria, where he spent his entire life, there passing away in 1865. His widow survived him, her death occurring in 1898.

Frank Angerer remained in his native land through the period of his boyhood, youth and early manhood. He pursued his education in its public schools, but his opportunities in that direction were somewhat limited owing to the neces-

sity that he early provide for his own support. In the school of experience, however, he has learned many valuable lessons and has become a well informed, capable man. He was but thirteen years of age when he left his mother's home in order to earn a living, working out in Austria until 1892 when he crossed the Atlantic with the hope of bettering his financial condition in the new world. He first made his way to Pennsylvania, where he was employed in the coal mines for nineteen years. He then came to Wisconsin, arriving in Door county in 1912, where he invested his savings in one hundred and forty acres of land on section 39, Egg Harbor township. He at once began the further development and improvement of this property, which he has since cultivated and he has now transformed his place into rich fields which are annually bringing forth good crops. He also makes a specialty of dairying, milking eleven cows, and this branch of his business adds not a little to his annual income.

Mr. Angerer is pleasantly situated in his home. He was married in August, 1899, to Miss Mary Kroll, and to them have been born six children, namely: Gotlieb, David, Joseph, Lucy, Frank and John. All are yet living with the exception of David.

In his political views Mr. Angerer has been a democrat since becoming a naturalized American citizen. He endorses the faith of the Catholic church and has ever been loyal to its teachings. He came to the new world when a man twenty-eight years of age, seeking a better chance for advancement than he could secure in his native country and as time has passed on he has wisely utilized his opportunities, working his way upward step by step until he is now the possessor of a good farm and a substantial competence.

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#### HENRY C. SIBREE, M. D.

Dr. Henry C. Sibree, actively and successfully engaged in medical and surgical practice at Sturgeon Bay, has been the pioneer in introducing many modern methods into Door county. He stands in the vanguard among those who are the exponents of modern scientific research and investigation and his labors have been attended with notably successful results. He was born in New York city, July 28, 1852, a son of Henry and Maria (Vreeland) Sibree, who were natives of Edinburgh, Scotland, and of New Jersey respectively. The latter was of Holland descent and the former came of Scotch Danish ancestry. Dr. Sibree is today the only man of the name in the United States. Many generations ago two Danes of that name removed from Denmark to Scotland and the name is found in England and New Zealand but not elsewhere. The father was a block printer by trade and later engaged in the express business in New York city. In 1858 he came to Wisconsin, settling in Manitowoc county, where he engaged in farming for four years. He afterward read law with J. D. Markham and was admitted to the bar. He practiced for several years and for one term served as district attorney. Both he and his wife passed away in Manitowoc.

Dr. Henry C. Sibree acquired a public school education in Manitowoc, passing through consecutive grades to the high school, and later he read medicine with Dr. Cokely. Subsequently he entered the Northwestern University Medical School at





DR. HENRY C. SIBREE



Chicago, from which he was graduated with the class of 1878. For five years thereafter he engaged in practice at Peshtigo, Wisconsin, and for a short time maintained an office at Green Bay but in 1883 came to Sturgeon Bay, where he embarked in general practice, in which he has since continued, although in recent years he has specialized largely in surgery. His contributions to professional service here have been most valuable. He built the first hospital of Door county in 1901 and he brought the first trained nurse to the county. He also performed the first operation for appendicitis in the county and he has taken the initial step in much professional work here. He is surgeon for the railway company and in addition he has a large private and hospital practice.

On the 27th of November, 1878, Dr. Sibree was married to Miss Cora A. French, of Dover, Ohio, a daughter of A. B. French, and their children are: Gertrude A., the wife of A. J. Basford, living at Grand Rapids, Michigan; Harry, who died at the age of fifteen months; Lucy, at home; and Margery, who is a nurse.

Dr. Sibree gives his political allegiance to the republican party and when in Peshtigo he served as county superintendent of schools in Marinette county. Fraternally he is connected with the Masons and formerly was an Odd Fellow. In the latter organization he filled all the chairs but has since ceased to be an active member of the order. He stands high professionally, is most conscientious in the performance of his duties, and he adds to his professional skill and ability a humanitarian spirit which is manifested in his ready sympathy and helpfulness.

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#### WILLIAM MOELLER.

Among those who were at one time active and valued citizens of Sturgeon Bay and who have been called from this life was William Moeller, who for a considerable period was proprietor of a hotel in Sturgeon Bay. He was born May 18, 1869, in the city in which he died, his parents being Marcus and Pulchira (Dangel) Moeller, who are mentioned in connection with the sketch of Frank J. Moeller, on another page of this work.

William Moeller was reared under the parental roof and pursued a public school education in Sturgeon Bay. He continued with his parents until 1894 and was then appointed postmaster of Sevastopol township. He continued to act in that capacity for several years and when his father built the Union Hotel in Sturgeon Bay, William Moeller took charge of it and conducted it until his death, making it a popular and well patronized hostelry.

On the 7th of January, 1896, Mr. Moeller married Miss Mary Propson, a daughter of Peter and Catherine (Kartheiser) Propson, who were natives of Germany and came to America in early life. The father resided for a time in Kenosha, Wisconsin, and afterward came to Sturgeon Bay. He had learned the carpenter's trade and followed this pursuit for many years, but eventually purchased land, a part of which was within the city limits. This he continued to cultivate and improve and upon his farm spent his remaining days, passing away in October, 1896. His widow survives at the age of sixty-nine years. To Mr. and Mrs. Moeller were born two children: Leo A., who was born March 1, 1900; and Mercedes, who was born September 30, 1905, and passed away

December 27, 1907. Mrs. Moeller was born in Sturgeon Bay February 9, 1872, and she has always resided in Door county. Since her husband's death she has conducted the Union Hotel and she also owns and cultivates a small orchard, having two acres in cherries. She possesses excellent business ability and enjoys the goodwill and the respect of all who know her. She holds membership in the Catholic church, to which Mr. Moeller belonged and in that faith he passed away August 23, 1913. He was a member of the Catholic Knights, the Catholic Order of Foresters and the Fraternal Order of Eagles. His political support was given the democratic party and for two terms he filled the position of alderman. He had many friends in the community where he lived and his enterprise in business, his loyalty in citizenship and his faithfulness in friendship, together with his devotion to his family, made him one of the valued and most highly esteemed citizens of Sturgeon Bay.

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#### HON. FRED S. HANSON.

Hon. Fred S. Hanson, who has done valuable public service as a member of Congress and as state dairy inspector, which position he is now filling, was born in Denmark, March 6, 1865, a son of Jorgen and Karen (Marquard) Hanson, who were also natives of Denmark. The father was a contractor in the old country and never came to the new world, but passed away in Denmark, in 1881, while his wife died in 1882.

Fred S. Hanson spent his youthful days under the parental roof and was educated in the schools of that country, spending one year as a student in a military school. At the age of fourteen years he began learning the butter making trade, and when nineteen years of age he enlisted in the Danish army with which he served one year. For several years he conducted creameries at Schleswig, Denmark, and in Sweden, but, attracted by the opportunities of the new world, at length left Europe to try his fortune in America, crossing the Atlantic in 1893. He made his way at once to Kewaunee county, Wisconsin, where he secured employment in operating a creamery for a year. That was the first creamery in the county and Mr. Hanson became the pioneer butter maker in this part of the state. In 1894 he removed to Door county and at Jacksonport established the first creamery within the borders of this county, conducting the business successfully for five years, after which he sold out and removed to Forestville, where he established another creamery which he conducted for a year and then sold. He next engaged in merchandising at Egg Harbor where he also bought dock property. He resided there for four years and during that time filled the office of postmaster. On disposing of his business there, he came to Sturgeon Bay in 1904, and purchased a large tract of land within the city limits along the bay shore. This he platted and then sold many lots. He also engaged in fruit growing and dairying for some time and upon his place erected a fine modern residence, called Hanson's Villa. His fellow townsmen, appreciative of his worth and ability, have called him to several offices of public honor and trust. He has always been a stalwart republican and upon the party ticket he was elected to the state legislature, receiving twelve hun-

dred and twenty-six votes, against six hundred and seventy-four votes cast for E. N. Anderson the independent candidate, and seventy-four votes cast for J. P. Seaquist, the prohibition candidate. This was in 1914. He made an excellent official, giving careful consideration to the questions which came up for settlement. In February, 1917, he was appointed state dairy inspector and has eight counties to cover. He is well qualified for this position and is doing excellent service in that connection. He is also a member and the secretary of the Equitable Fraternal Union.

In November, 1893, Mr. Hanson was united in marriage to Miss Anna McCoshey, a daughter of Michael and Anna (Witchpalek) McCoshey, who were natives of Poland and Bohemia respectively. Coming to America they settled in Kewaunee county, Wisconsin, where the father purchased timber land near Algoma. He cleared away the trees, took out the stumps and plowed the fields, which in due course of time brought forth good crops. For many years he successfully carried on farming and he is now living retired in Algoma, where he and his wife occupy a comfortable home and are enjoying the competence that came to them as the reward of their former labors.

Mr. and Mrs. Hanson have become the parents of two children: Leo J., who was born March 11, 1895, and has just completed a course in medicine in the State University at Madison; and Theodore Roosevelt, who was born in August, 1898, was graduated from the Sturgeon Bay high school in 1917 and expects to become a medical student in the State University. The religious faith of the family is that of the Catholic church. Mr. Hanson has made steady progress since he came to the new world as a young man, winning success in business and gaining for himself a creditable position as a citizen whose devotion to the public welfare has been manifest in many tangible efforts for the public good.

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#### GILBERT J. ANDERSON.

Gilbert J. Anderson is a retired farmer living on section 25, Forestville township. For many years he was actively identified with general agricultural pursuits, so that he now deserves the rest which has come to him. He has reached the Psalmist's allotted span of three score years and ten—in fact has passed the seventy-second milestone on life's journey, his birth having occurred in Norway, February 17, 1845, his parents being Andrew and Mary (Jensen) Anderson. He had reached the age of twenty-two years when on the 9th of April, 1867, he left Norway for the United States, taking passage on a sailing vessel which was eleven weeks in reaching Quebec, Canada. From that point he proceeded to Manitowoc, Wisconsin, where he first engaged in carpenter work, while later he operated a sawmill up the river. He also gave some attention to farming in that locality but on the 1st of September, 1871, he left Manitowoc for Door county and in connection with his brother-in-law, Eric Nelson, he purchased three forty acre tracts of land. They cleared a part of the farm and later divided it, Mr. Anderson coming into possession of the sixty acres which he now owns. Through all the intervening period, covering forty-six years, he has been identified with

farming in Forestville township and now deserves the rest which has come to him.

In 1866 Mr. Anderson was united in marriage to Miss Dorothy Nelson, a daughter of Nels and Sarah (Erickson) Nelson, who were married in Norway. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have six children, namely: Mary, John, Sophia, Nicholas, Anton and Edward. In his political views Mr. Anderson has been a republican since becoming a naturalized American citizen and has never faltered in his allegiance to the party. In the spring of 1872 he was elected supervisor and for thirty-three years he served on the school board, actively interested in the cause of public education with an earnest desire to provide the young of the district with adequate opportunities in that direction. He also served as school clerk. He has, moreover, been the champion of good roads and has done everything in his power to further public highways. He is one of the oldest members of the Norwegian church and his entire life has been actuated by high and honorable principles, making him a man whom to know is to esteem.

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#### ANDRIS M. BURSEN.

Andris M. Bursen of Sturgeon Bay is one of the proprietors of the Sawyer Garage Company, Incorporated, and in this connection is handling a successful and growing business. He was born in Chicago, Illinois, in July, 1888, a son of Martin and Karen (Salvesen) Bursen, who were natives of Stavanger, Norway, and at an early day came to the new world, establishing their home in Chicago. The father was a sail maker by trade and before coming to the United States worked for Thomas Lipton in London. He continued at his trade until 1905, when he came to Door county and established his home on a farm which he had purchased in 1896. For twelve years he has continued to cultivate and develop this property and has added to it many modern, substantial improvements. Both he and his wife still reside in Sturgeon Bay township.

Andris M. Bursen was reared and educated in Chicago. For eight years he was employed in the Englewood State Bank and also spent four years in the employ of his father on the farm. In the spring of 1916, however, he left the bank and came to Sturgeon Bay. On March 1, 1917, he became associated with Ed Hunt and David J. Machia in the automobile business, which they incorporated under the name of the Sawyer Garage Company, with Mr. Hunt as the president, Mr. Machia as vice president and Mr. Bursen as secretary and treasurer. They handle the Overland car exclusively and have the agency for the entire county except Forestville. They also do a general repair business and carry automobile supplies.

On the 4th of April, 1916, Mr. Bursen was united in marriage to Miss Alma Goerler, a daughter of Bernard and Marie (Wegman) Goerler, who were natives of Germany and of Door county, Wisconsin, respectively. In early life the father came to the new world and cast in his lot with the pioneer settlers of Door county, where he opened a saloon and engaged in the business for many years. He now conducts a restaurant in Sawyer. Mr. and Mrs. Bursen have one child, Andris B., born May 24, 1917. The religious faith of the family is that of

the Lutheran church, and in his political views Mr. Bursen is a republican. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias and to the Royal League. He is now well known in Sturgeon Bay and has contributed in no small measure to the successful upbuilding of the business in which he is now engaged.

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#### ARTHUR J. GORDON, D. D. S.

Dr. Arthur J. Gordon, engaged in the practice of dentistry in Sturgeon Bay for sixteen years, is now a well known representative of professional interests in Door county. He was born in Brodhead, Wisconsin, August 18, 1877, and is a son of Alexander and Alice (Jelliff) Gordon, who were early residents of Brodhead, establishing their home at that place about 1874. They are now residents of California. The father devoted his early life to farming and afterward became connected with the oil business.

Dr. Gordon acquired a public school education and afterward entered the Wisconsin College of Physicians and Surgeons, becoming a student in the dental department, from which he was graduated with the class of 1901. In August of the same year he came to Sturgeon Bay and opened an office which he has since maintained. Its equipment in the intervening years has been changed to correspond with the improvements which modern scientific research and later-day inventions have brought to light. He possesses in large measure that mechanical skill and ingenuity so necessary in successful dental practice and in all respects he is well qualified for the work which has devolved upon him. That his efforts are highly satisfactory to the public is indicated by the many who have given him their professional support through all these years.

In 1902 Dr. Gordon was married to Miss Maude Marie Roderick, of Brodhead, and they have two children, Roderick and Philip. Dr. Gordon belongs to the Knights of Pythias, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America, while his political views are indicated in the stalwart support which he gives to the republican party. The honors and emoluments of office, however, have had no attraction for him, as he has always preferred to concentrate his energies and attention upon his practice. He has ever remained a student of dentistry and his conscientious work well merits the success which is his.

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#### LEWIS POLSTER.

Since 1890 Lewis Polster has carried on farming in Door county and is now the owner of a well improved and valuable farm on section 2, Sevastopol township. A native of Wisconsin, he was born in the town of Russell, Sheboygan county, November 22, 1865, and is a son of Charles and Anna Polster, who were born in Germany but came to the United States during their youth and were married in Sheboygan county, this state, where the father purchased a farm and engaged in agricultural pursuits for a number of years. He died in December.

1886, and the mother departed this life December 28, 1916, both being laid to rest in the Russell cemetery. In the family were six children, Lewis being the second in order of birth, but only two of the number are now living, the younger being Otto, who still resides on the old homestead in Sheboygan county.

Like most farmer boys, Lewis Polster early became familiar with all the duties of the farm and at the same time pursued his studies in the district schools as he found opportunity until sixteen years of age. He then worked for his father until he was twenty-two years old and afterward rented the home farm for one year. The following two years were spent at Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin, where he worked as a railroad section hand, but on the 10th of September, 1890, he came to Door county and purchased the west half of the northeast quarter of section 11, Sevastopol township, twenty-eight acres of which had been cleared. He removed the timber from the remainder of the tract and made all of the improvements upon that place and later purchased the west half of the southeast quarter of section 2 of the same township, whereon he has resided ever since. He has erected good and substantial buildings for the shelter of grain and stock and is a progressive, wide-awake farmer who has made a success of his chosen calling.

On the 15th of March, 1888, Mr. Polster married Miss Amelia Henschel, a daughter of Herman and Mary Henschel, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Wisconsin. For some years her father followed farming in Sheboygan county, this state, but later removed to Sturgeon Bay, Door county, where he passed away, his remains being interred in Bayside cemetery. Mrs. Henschel is now living at Russell, Sheboygan county. Of the six children born to Mr. and Mrs. Polster, Florence died at the age of thirteen months and the others are still living, namely: Amanda, at home; Lottie, the wife of Joseph Pichette, of Egg Harbor; Selma, of Racine, Wisconsin; and Eda and Helen, both at home.

The family hold membership in the German Lutheran church and Mr. Polster is a supporter of the republican party, taking a commendable interest in public affairs. He has served as school director and pathmaster for one term each but prefers to give his attention principally to his business interests and is regarded as one of the representative farmers of his community.

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#### FRED MARTENS, SR.

The student of history cannot carry his investigations far into the records of Door county, and especially of Egg Harbor township, without learning of the important part which Fred Martens has played in the agricultural development of the district. He has not only carried on farming himself but he has reared a family who have done much to further the development of the county along that line. He was born in Germany, July 2, 1852, a son of Frederick and Elizabeth Martens, who were natives of Germany, where the father followed the occupation of farming throughout his entire life, there passing away in 1905. He long survived his wife, whose death occurred in 1862.

Fred Martens was reared and educated in Germany and while still in that





FRED MARTENS, JR., AND FAMILY



country worked upon the home farm and also in the city until 1881, when, at the age of twenty-nine years, he decided to try his fortune in the new world. He had previously served for three years in the German army. When he came to the United States he made his way to Chicago, where he lived for three years, and in 1884 he came to Door county, Wisconsin, purchasing land in Egg Harbor township. His place is on section 15, and when it came into his possession it was a wild and undeveloped tract. He at once began clearing and improving the property and successfully continued its cultivation until 1913, when he retired from active farm life, retained an acre of land for himself and then sold the remainder of the place to his son. He was at one time the owner of two hundred acres, which constituted one of the desirable and valuable farms of Egg Harbor township, and was visible evidence of his life of well directed energy and thrift.

In October, 1882, Mr. Martens was united in marriage to Miss Mary Kamming, and they have become parents of six children; Ida; Fred; William; Charlie; and Annie, all at home; and Walter, who died in September, 1892. Mr. and Mrs. Martens hold membership in the Lutheran church and his political allegiance is given to the democratic party. He served as school treasurer for nine years but otherwise has not been active in public office. For a third of a century he has resided in Door county and was long one of its leading and enterprising farmers, while the rest which he is now enjoying is well deserved.

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#### FRED J. MARTENS.

Fred J. Martens, successfully engaged in general farming and dairying, his home being on section 22, Egg Harbor township, was born in Chicago, Illinois, in June, 1884, a son of Fred and Mary (Kamming) Martens, who are mentioned elsewhere in this work. He was reared in Egg Harbor township, Door county, where he attended the public schools. When not occupied with his textbooks he worked upon the home farm and remained with his father until after attaining his majority, when he purchased his present place of eighty-six acres on sections 22 and 23, Egg Harbor township, his buildings being upon the latter section. He at once began the task of developing and improving his farm and the result of his labors is seen in one of the most attractive places in his part of the county. Wild land has been transformed into richly cultivated fields and he has an acre of land planted to cherries. He also engages in dairying, making a specialty of handling thoroughbred Holstein cattle, milking twelve cows. He has excellent equipment for his dairy business, which is conducted along the most sanitary and scientific lines.

On the 13th of June, 1906, Mr. Martens was united in marriage to Miss Katie Zettel, a daughter of Albert and Caroline (Wolske) Zettel. Mr. and Mrs. Martens have become parents of five children: Mabel, who was born April 20, 1907, and died August 18th of that year; Edna, who was born July 11, 1908; Arthur, who was born November 27, 1909; Lester, born April 24, 1912, and a twin of Lester, who did not live.

The religious belief of the family is that of the Lutheran church. Politically Mr. Martens follows a somewhat independent course but his fellow townsmen,

recognizing his worth, have called him to several local offices. For two years he was township supervisor, has been school clerk for four years and is the present school treasurer. High regard is entertained for him by all who have business or social relations with him.

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#### CHARLES F. MARTENS.

Charles F. Martens is a representative of an old and well known family of Door county. Reared to the occupation of farming, he is now successfully engaged in carrying on general agricultural pursuits on section 15, Egg Harbor township. He was born July 6, 1888, a son of Fred and Mary (Kamming) Martens, who are mentioned on another page of this work. He was reared and received his early education in Egg Harbor township and continued his studies in the State University at Madison, Wisconsin, thus receiving liberal training. He remained at home with his parents until his father retired from active business life, at which time he purchased one hundred and fifty-nine acres of the old home place, which is situated on sections 15 and 16, Egg Harbor township, with the buildings on the former section. He has since improved the place to a large extent and has successfully cultivated his fields, which annually produce rich crops. The improvements upon his place are thoroughly modern and he follows the most progressive methods in the care and development of his fields and in his stock raising interests. He has five acres planted to cherries and apples and he is making a specialty of dairying, keeping pure bred Holstein cattle and milking eighteen cows. He also raises Poland China hogs and his live stock interests are an important feature of his business.

On the 8th of February, 1914, Mr. Martens was united in marriage to Miss Ella Graf and they have one child, Robert Phillip, who was born April 16, 1917. Their religious belief is that of the Lutheran church and Mr. Martens belongs also to the Moose lodge but in politics maintains an independent course. He is well known as a representative of one of the old and prominent families of Door county and his own life record is one which has gained for him the esteem and warm regard of those with whom he has been brought in contact.

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#### WILLIAM L. MARTENS.

The history of agricultural development and progress in Egg Harbor township would be incomplete were there failure to make reference to the Martens family, of which William L. Martens is a representative. He now resides on section 16 and, moreover, he is a native son of Egg Harbor township. He was born on the 12th of January, 1887, of the marriage of Fred and Mary (Kamming) Martens. His youthful days were spent under the parental roof and his education was acquired in the public school. Through the summer months he worked in the fields and was thus trained to the labor which he has made his life work. He continued to assist his father until he reached the age of twenty years, when

he purchased his present place, comprising one hundred acres on section 16, Egg Harbor township. This he at once began to clear and develop and today he is the owner of a splendidly improved farm which he has continuously operated, bringing his fields to a high state of cultivation. He makes a specialty of dairying and handles graded Holstein cattle. His farm is well equipped for the conduct of a dairy business and his interests along that line are conducted in a most sanitary and scientific way.

On the 5th of September, 1907, Mr. Martens was united in marriage to Miss Emma Schuster and they have become parents of five children: Mildred, Evelyn, Wilmer, Helen and Loretta. Mr. Martens exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the democratic party and his religious faith is that of the Lutheran church. He has been a lifelong resident of this county and he has many friends among its more substantial citizens, enjoying the goodwill and confidence of those with whom he has been associated.

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#### ALEXANDER MORROW.

Alexander Morrow, who follows farming on section 10, Sevastopol township, is a native of Wisconsin, born May 24, 1846, and is a son of John and Elizabeth (Houle) Morrow, natives of Canada and Wisconsin respectively. When our subject was small his father was employed in sawmills in many parts of this state but later purchased a farm and lived thereon until the last few years of his life. For a time he made his home in Sturgeon Bay but his last days were spent with our subject, passing away here September 1, 1882. After his death the mother made her home with a daughter in Medford, Michigan, where she died and was buried. The remains of the father, however, were interred in a cemetery at Sturgeon Bay. To this worthy couple were born nine children, but the family became widely scattered and our subject knows of but one brother and one sister now living, these being William, a resident of Medford, Michigan; and Amanda, the wife of George Green, of Chicago.

Alexander Morrow was quite small when the family located on a farm near Green Bay and amid pioneer scenes he grew to manhood, his early educational advantages being such as the district schools afforded at that time. After laying aside his textbooks at the age of sixteen years he worked as a farm hand in Door county for some time but was finally able to purchase the south half of the southeast quarter of section 10, Sevastopol township, which he cleared and improved, converting it into a good farm where he now resides.

On the 16th of May, 1873, Mr. Morrow was united in marriage to Miss Frances Kunsela, a native of Bohemia who came to America when sixteen years of age, but her parents never crossed the Atlantic and are now deceased. The children born of this union are as follows: George, who died at the age of forty-four years, leaving a widow and five children, now residents of Sevastopol township; John and Jerome, both dredge captains in Boston, Massachusetts; Edward, a resident of Buffalo, New York; Frank, who is now operating the home farm; Mary, the widow of Michael Donovan, living near Oneida Reservation, Michigan; and Ethel, at home. The family are communicants of the Catholic church

and Mr. Morrow is a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters. Wherever known he is held in the highest esteem and he is regarded as one of the leading citizens of his community.

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#### ARTHUR D. RIEBOLDT.

Arthur D. Rieboldt is conducting a well equipped photographic studio in Sturgeon Bay. He is well known in this city, where the greater part of his life has been passed. He was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, October 6, 1884, and is a son of August Rieboldt, who for many years has been prominently connected with the shipbuilding interests of this city and is thus controlling a most important industrial enterprise of Sturgeon Bay.

Spending his youthful days under the parental roof, Arthur D. Rieboldt acquired a public school education. He became a high school student and when his textbooks were put aside he entered the employ of his father, with whom he worked for a few years. He then became government stone inspector, which position he filled for several years, and he still does that class of work. At the present time, however, he is conducting the Rieboldt Studio, which was established by O. R. Moore and was purchased by Mrs. Rieboldt in 1909. Mr. and Mrs. Rieboldt are now associated in the management of the enterprise and have made it the leading photographic gallery of Sturgeon Bay. They employ the most modern and improved scientific processes in making pictures and have succeeded in producing splendid effects in light and shade and, moreover, have the faculty of obtaining a natural expression and pose on the part of their subjects.

In 1910 Mr. Rieboldt was married to Miss Jessie Batchelder, of Sturgeon Bay, a daughter of Peter Batchelder, a well known representative of navigation interests who for many years has been a captain on the lakes. Mr. Rieboldt belongs to the Masonic lodge, chapter and council and also to the Knights of Pythias and is loyal to the teachings of these orders, which recognize the brotherhood of mankind and the obligation thereby imposed.

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#### TIMOTHY A. EGAN, D. D. S.

Dr. Timothy A. Egan, who for twenty-one years has practiced dentistry in Sturgeon Bay, was born in Manitowoc, Wisconsin, January 24, 1869, a son of William and Hannah (Kelley) Egan, both of whom were natives of Ireland, the former born in Tipperary and the latter in Cork. The maternal grandfather brought his family to Wisconsin in 1849 and cast in his lot with the pioneer settlers of Manitowoc. It was in 1852 that William Egan became a resident of Manitowoc, where he engaged in business as a grain buyer. He passed away in 1906 at the age of sixty-eight years, his birth having occurred in 1838. His widow survived him for a long period and had reached the age of sixty-eight when she was called to her final home in 1915.

After completing his public school training in the high school of Manitowoc, Dr. Egan entered the Chicago College of Dental Surgery, from which he was graduated in 1896. Immediately afterward he came to Sturgeon Bay, where he established his office and has since followed his profession. He is most careful in the conduct of his work and to mechanical skill and ingenuity he adds broad scientific knowledge.

On the 15th of August, 1901, Dr. Egan was united in marriage to Miss Clara Ryan, of Sturgeon Bay, a daughter of Patrick and Clara (Damnkohler) Ryan. They have four children, John, Mary, William and Cathryne. The family are members of St. Joseph's Catholic church and Dr. Egan belongs to the Knights of Columbus, the Catholic Order of Foresters and the Modern Brotherhood of America. His political allegiance is given to the democratic party, but he does not seek nor desire office, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his professional duties, which are continually becoming more extensive.

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#### JACOB STAATS.

Jacob Staats, who is living on section 36, Egg Harbor township, his time and energies being concentrated upon general agricultural pursuits, was born in Washington county, Wisconsin, July 2, 1853, a son of John and Elizabeth (Hartman) Staats, who were natives of Germany and crossed the Atlantic in an old-time sailing vessel at an early date. John Staats was a lad of nine years at the time. The family home was established in Erie, Pennsylvania, and when he was eighteen years of age a removal was made to Washington county, Wisconsin, where he afterward took up a homestead on which not a furrow had been turned nor an improvement made. With characteristic energy he began the development of the property and this he cleared, afterward plowing his land and planting his crops which in due course of time brought forth rich harvests. His remaining days were devoted to agricultural pursuits upon that farm, which continued his place of residence until his death in 1880, when he was fifty-four years of age. He had long survived his wife who died in 1856.

Jacob Staats was reared and educated in Washington county, having the usual experiences of the farm bred boy who attends the district schools and works in the fields and thus becomes trained for life's activities and responsibilities. He remained at home until he reached the age of twenty-seven years, when he came to Door county and for a year was employed at farm labor. He then rented land, which he cultivated for a short time, and, carefully saving his earnings, he was afterward able to purchase his present place of eighty acres, which he at once began to clear and develop, transforming it into rich and productive fields. He afterward bought one hundred and sixty acres more and now has an excellent farm of two hundred and forty acres, which he is successfully cultivating. He started out empty handed and today is the possessor of one of the best improved places in the county. His buildings are all on section 36, while eighty acres of his land lies in section 35, Egg Harbor township. In addition to cultivating the cereals best adapted to soil and climate he raises high grade and some pure bred Holstein cattle, and milks fourteen cows.

On the 19th of August, 1880, Mr. Staats was united in marriage to Miss Magdalena Puehler, and they have become parents of twelve children: May, the wife of John Swichenberg, a resident farmer of Egg Harbor township; Elmer, who follows farming in Canada; Laura, the wife of John Graf, a farmer of Montana; Hattie, the wife of John Benuchner, who is living in Egg Harbor township; Edward; Albert; Clara; Jacob; Norman; and three children who died in infancy.

Mr. Staats votes with the democratic party since attaining the right of franchise but has never been an office seeker. His religious faith is that of the Lutheran church and he is held in high esteem as a man loyal to his principles and honorable in business relations.

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#### NICHOLAS MOELLER.

Among the respected citizens of Sturgeon Bay is Nicholas Moeller, who engaged in farming in Door county for many years but at length put aside the work of the fields and removed to this city, where he is now living retired. His birth occurred in Germany, in September, 1853, and he is a son of Adam and Catherine (Cress) Moeller, also natives of that country. The father, who was farmer by occupation, died in 1857, and the mother's demise occurred in 1854.

Nicholas Moeller received his education in Germany and after putting aside his textbooks worked as a farm hand for one year. He then learned the cabinet-maker's trade and in 1871 when eighteen years old emigrated to America. He made his way across the country to Door county, Wisconsin, where some of his relatives were living, and found work in the lumber woods. During the winters he was employed in the woods, while the summers were devoted to work in a hotel. Later he drove a team at Horseshoe Bay for a Chicago firm and his wife operated a boarding house. At the end of fourteen months of this work, however, he bought eighty acres in Sevastopol township, and at once set about clearing the land, for the entire tract was wooded. He placed more than sixty acres under cultivation and for twenty-two years concentrated his energies upon the operation of that farm. At length he sold that place and bought one hundred and sixty-three acres in the same township, upon which he made improvements from time to time. He was very successful in his farm work, accumulated more than a competence and purchased an additional forty acres, making his total holdings two hundred and three acres. In 1910 he sold his land to his sons and retired from active life, removing to Sturgeon Bay where he has since resided.

Mr. Moeller was married in August, 1874, to Miss Minnie Hempen, a daughter of Christian and Minnie (City) Hempen, who were natives of Germany. Mrs. Moeller was but four years old when her parents removed with their family from the fatherland to the United States. They came at once to Door county and the father purchased land in Liberty Grove township, which he cultivated until his death in 1887. The mother reached the venerable age of ninety-three, dying in 1915. Mrs. Moeller passed away May 2, 1912, after an illness of two weeks, and her demise was deeply regretted by her many friends.



as well as her family. She was the mother of seven children, namely: Catherine, who is in a convent in Milwaukee; George M., who is farming in Door county; Christina, who is the widow of James Long, who passed away in 1912; Ludwig T., who is also on the home farm; Harry A., residing at Whitefish Bay, Sevastopol township; William F., who is farming in that township; and Ida W., who is the wife of Joseph Carmody and housekeeper for her father.

Mr. Moeller is a strong democrat in politics and has been an active factor in local affairs. While living on his farm he served as road commissioner of Sevastopol township, was chairman of the township board for six years and held the office of school director for ten years. After his removal to Sturgeon Bay he was elected a member of the county board of supervisors and he has also served for two years as alderman. His repeated election to office is evidence of his efficiency and devotion to the public welfare. He is secretary of the Soldiers' Relief Committee and is president of the local organization of the Catholic Knights, which connection indicates his religious faith. Through continued and well directed industry he has gained a measure of financial success that enables him to live retired and he is putting the leisure that is now his to good use, as he is devoting his time to work for the good of his community.

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#### WILLIAM O. BROWN.

William O. Brown, a resident of Sturgeon Bay township, is well known throughout the county as a capable educator and also as a leader in horticultural circles and president of the Fruit Growers' Association. He has done a great deal of valuable work and has proved himself an energetic and efficient executive. He was born in Racine, Wisconsin, August 31, 1856, and is a son of Isaac R. and Elizabeth (Roberts) Brown, the former a native of Wales and the latter of New York state. When thirteen years old the father emigrated to America, and after living a few years in New York removed to Racine, Wisconsin, where he resided until called by death in 1880. For forty years he was a captain on lake steamers. He was survived by his wife for three years.

William O. Brown was reared at home and received his elementary education in the Racine schools. Subsequently he attended normal school at Oshkosh for four years. In 1884 he came to Sturgeon Bay as principal of the public schools, where for eight years, or until 1892, he served in that capacity or as superintendent. Later, for a year and a half, he engaged in the shingle business, after which he went to the State University for further study. He was next principal of the high school at Green Bay from 1894 until 1911.

In the latter year he came again to Sturgeon Bay and purchased ninety acres, two and one-half miles from town, and turned his attention to fruit growing. For the past four years he has been teacher of mathematics in the high school and his work in that position has been unusually successful. He has devoted thirty years of his life to the teaching profession and his record is one of which he has just cause to be proud. He is still interested in the problems of the Fruit Growers' Association and is a member of the board of directors of the Union Board of that association and the Sturgeon Bay Exchange. He derives a good

income from his farm which is largely devoted to the raising of fruit, and is one of the most highly improved places in the county.

Mr. Brown was married in June, 1885, to Miss Lucy M. Palmer, who passed away in March, 1900. To them were born six children, namely: Inez; Vivian M.; Edna; Harold, who is deceased; Maurice; and Leland. In 1901, Mr. Brown was united in marriage to Jennie Steinman, of Logan, Ohio.

Mr. Brown is a supporter of the republican party and gives careful study to the questions and issues of the day. He was elected county supervisor but declined to serve in that office, feeling that his other interests needed his entire attention. For many years he was an active member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the principles which have governed his conduct are further indicated in his membership in the Congregational church. He is held in high esteem by all who have contact with him and his personal friends are many.

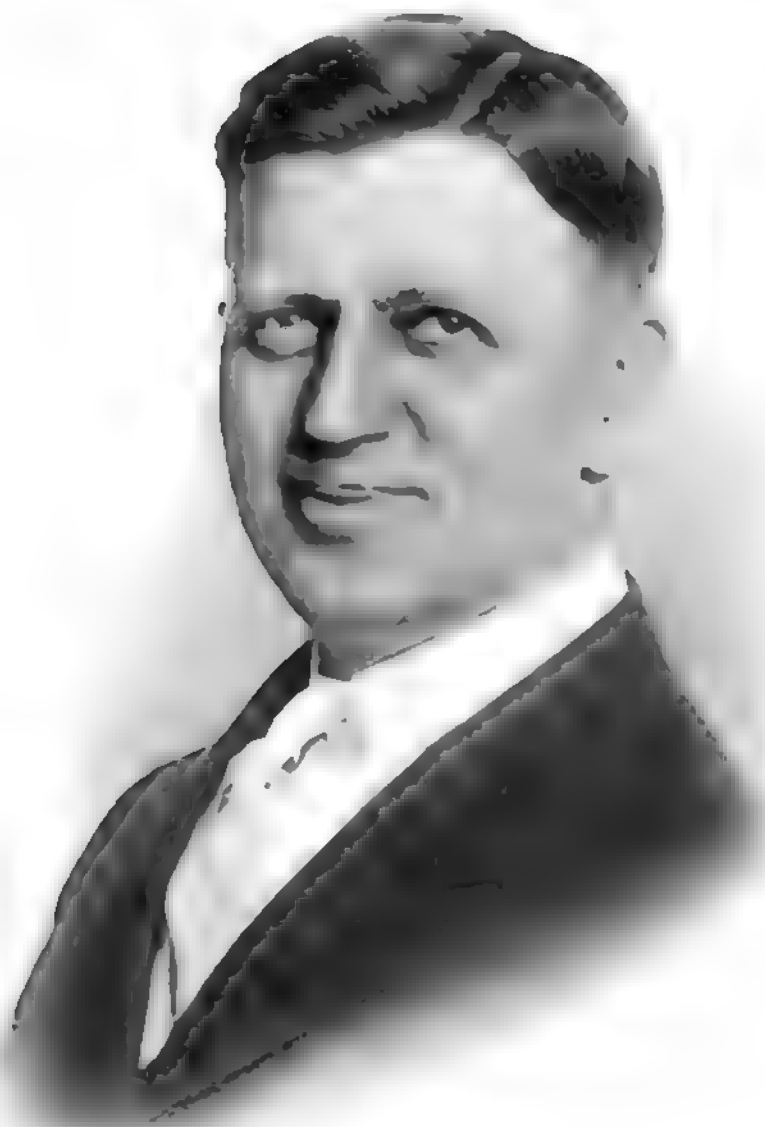
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#### GUSTAF R. EGELAND, M. D.

Dr. Gustaf R. Egeland, a member of the medical profession of Sturgeon Bay, now specializing in surgery, was born February 29, 1876, in the city in which he still makes his home, a son of Gabriel and Regina Egeland, who were natives of Stavanger, Norway, where they were reared and married. The year 1873 witnessed their arrival in Sturgeon Bay. The father became a sailor and later captain of a tugboat and eventually lived retired until his death in December, 1916. His widow still survives.

Dr. Egeland entered the public schools at the usual age and mastered the branches of learning taught in the successive grades and attended the high school. He next entered Northwestern University for the study of medicine and completed his preparation for the profession in 1903, when he was awarded his degree. For a year thereafter he practiced in connection with Dr. Sibree and later spent four months in northern Minnesota, but on the expiration of that period returned to Door county and for ten years maintained an office at Ephraim. In October, 1914, he returned to Sturgeon Bay, where he has since followed his profession, specializing in surgery, in which he displays marked efficiency and skill. He is now proprietor of the Egeland Hospital, which has accommodations for about seventeen patients. It is a thoroughly modern and fully equipped hospital, supplied with everything necessary for the most advanced practice in scientific surgery, and the patients are under the direct care of carefully trained nurses. Dr. Egeland was commissioned July 16, 1917, as captain in the Medical Officers Reserve Corps in the United States army.

On the 18th of April, 1907, Dr. Egeland was married to Miss Lydia Alvira Anderson, of Ephraim, a daughter of Aslag and Margaret Anderson, who were pioneer residents of Door county. Dr. Egeland votes with the republican party and for two years was a member of the state park board, during which period he was largely instrumental in securing the establishment of the state park in Door county. He belongs to the Moravian church and in Masonry has taken the degrees of lodge and chapter. Along strictly professional lines he has connection with the Door County Medical Society, the Wisconsin State Medical Society and is a



*Gustaf T. Eyeland, M.D.*



fellow of the American Medical Association. He thus keeps in touch with the advanced thought in medical research of the day and is in this way continually promoting his knowledge.

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#### HERMAN L. SCHMIDT.

Herman L. Schmidt, a resident farmer of Door county, living on section 24, Nasewaupsee township, was born on the 2d of March, 1876, in Kewaunee county, Wisconsin, a son of F. W. Schmidt. The father served as a soldier of the Civil war with a Wisconsin regiment, after which he returned to this state and was long a valued resident thereof, passing away April 8, 1917. His widow still survives.

Herman L. Schmidt was reared and educated in Alaska, Kewaunee county, and started out to earn his living by working as a farm hand, to which he devoted a few years. In 1904 he took up his abode in Door county, where he purchased a place of forty-eight acres. Upon this tract he has put good improvements and he is now devoting his attention largely to poultry raising, being the most successful poultry raiser of the county. He makes a specialty of single comb White Leghorn chickens and has some very fine ones. He takes care of his fowls in scientific manner and his thorough care has produced excellent results. He also engages in dairying to some extent, for which purpose he keeps fine Holstein cattle.

On the 9th of May, 1905, Mr. Schmidt was united in marriage to Miss Matilda Moeller, of Sturgeon Bay, and their children are: Arnold, born July 4, 1909; Pulcheria, born August 23, 1912; and Madonna, who was born November 15, 1914, and died March 5, 1916, being buried in the Catholic cemetery. The parents are members of the Corpus Christi church and in his political views Mr. Schmidt is a democrat. His has been an active life. In early manhood he worked in sawmills, clerked in a general merchandise store and spent three years in the lumber woods, but he is now concentrating his attention upon his agricultural interests and his affairs are so wisely conducted that success in large measure is his.

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#### CLARK P. BASSETT.

Commercial activity in Sturgeon Bay finds a worthy representative in Clark P. Bassett, who since 1906 has been proprietor of a drug store in this city. He was born in Mount Pleasant, Iowa, July 28, 1881, a son of H. M. and Etta (Melendy) Bassett. The father, who was a physician and surgeon, has now passed away. The family removed to Minnesota during the early boyhood of Clark P. Bassett, who there attended the public schools, and later he became a student in the University of Minnesota, where he pursued a course in pharmacy. He was there graduated with the class of 1906 and thus became well qualified for his chosen life work. In the meantime, however, he had had some experi-

ence along that line. He came to Sturgeon Bay in 1900 and secured employment in Styles' drug store. Wishing to supplement his practical experience by thorough scientific training, he then entered the University of Minnesota and following his graduation he returned to Sturgeon Bay and opened his store in 1906. The Bassett drug store has become one of the leading commercial enterprises of the city. His establishment is well appointed and tastefully arranged. He carries a large and complete line of drugs and druggists' sundries and his patronage has become of a substantial character.

In 1907 Mr. Bassett was united in marriage to Miss Lillian Cochem, of Sturgeon Bay, a daughter of Matt and Elizabeth Cochem. They now have two children, Robert and Elizabeth. Mr. and Mrs. Bassett are members of St. Joseph's Catholic church and his political endorsement is given to the democratic party. He has resided here for seventeen years, during which period he has become widely known, and his sterling qualities as well as his business ability have established him high in public regard.

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#### L. F. HENSCHEL.

L. F. Henschel, a well known farmer and stock raiser whose home is on section 11, Sevastopol township, was born in Russell, Sheboygan county, Wisconsin, on the 4th of September, 1869, his parents being Adolph and Amelia (Mauer) Henschel, also natives of this state. Throughout his active business life the father followed farming but is now living retired in Kiel, Manitowoc county, Wisconsin. The mother also survives. In their family were seven children, namely: Crystal, now the wife of Henry Brickmeier, living near Chilton, Wisconsin; L. F., of this review; Mary, the wife of Philip Sinc, of Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin; Conrad and Gustav, both living in Greenbush, this state; George, a resident of Egg Harbor township, Door county; and Edmund, still on the old homestead in Russell township, Sheboygan county.

L. F. Henschel passed his boyhood and youth in much the usual manner of farm boys, his early education being acquired in the schools near his father's farm, which he attended until fourteen years of age, and during the following five years he gave his father the benefit of his labor in the operation of the home farm. For one year he then worked as a farm hand and later spent a year at Fresno, California. In 1886 he came to Door county, Wisconsin, and purchased the northwest quarter of section 11, Sevastopol township, to the improvement and cultivation of which he has since devoted his energies with marked success. He now has a very valuable farm on which are good and substantial buildings, and in connection with agricultural pursuits he is engaged in the raising of registered Guernsey cattle.

Mr. Henschel was married November 22, 1892, to Miss Elizabeth Arnold, a daughter of Christoph and Charlotta (Stark) Arnold, of Manitowoc county. Her mother died in 1917 and was buried in that county, but her father is still living and has now retired from farming, which he made his life work. He now makes his home in Kiel, Manitowoc county. Mr. and Mrs. Henschel have two chil-

dren: Dora, now the wife of Otto Conrad, of Forestville township, Door county; and Ella, the wife of Otto Voeks, of Sevastopol township.

The republican party finds in Mr. Henschel a staunch supporter of its principles and for a time he served as town chairman but has never taken a very active part in public affairs. He is an earnest and consistent member of the German Lutheran church and is held in the highest regard by all who know him.

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#### FRANK A. SHIMMEL.

Among the many attractive stores of Sturgeon Bay is that owned by Frank A. Shimmel, a grocery merchant, who has built up a good trade and now enjoys a well deserved patronage. He was born in Kewaunee, Wisconsin, September 4, 1875, a son of Frank J. and Kate (Wanninger) Shimmel, both of whom were natives of Germany. They were brought to America in childhood, however, by their respective parents, the two families establishing homes at Manitowoc, Wisconsin. Later they removed to Kewaunee and it was there that Frank J. Shimmel and Kate Wanninger were married and began their domestic life. In 1880 they removed to Sturgeon Bay and the following year Mr. Shimmel opened the first bank of the town in connection with Joseph Kozishek. He lived retired with his son, until his death, December 27, 1916.

Frank A. Shimmel obtained a public school education in Sturgeon Bay, where the greater part of his life has been passed. In 1894 his mother opened a small grocery store and he became her active assistant in its management. She died August 30, 1907, and Frank A. Shimmel took over the business, which he has since conducted, building up a trade of good proportions. He has made for himself a most creditable position in business circles of the city and his course has at all times commended him to the confidence and respect of his fellowmen.

In politics Mr. Shimmel maintains an independent policy, voting for men and measures rather than party. Fraternally he is connected with the Knights of Pythias and he also belongs to the Twenty Club, an exclusive organization composed of some of the most prominent business men of the city.

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#### PETER KROLL.

An excellent farm of eighty acres situated on section 15, Egg Harbor township, and improved with many modern accessories and conveniences is the property of Peter Kroll, who was born in Austria on the 30th of November, 1871, a son of Peter and Emma Kroll, who were likewise natives of that land. The father followed the occupation of farming in Austria until 1883, when, recognizing the fact that he could have better business opportunities in the new world, he crossed the Atlantic with his family and established his home in Pennsylvania, where he worked in the coal mines. He lived to enjoy the improved opportunities and conditions of the new world, however, for only three years, passing

away in 1886, while his wife died in Austria in 1882, the year before the husband's emigration to America.

Peter Kroll attended school in Austria until he reached the age of eleven years, when he came to the United States with his father and also began work in the coal mines of Pennsylvania, where he remained for twenty-three years. On the expiration of that extended period he came to Door county and invested his savings in eighty acres of land on section 15, Egg Harbor township. The practical work of the farm was at once begun and the result of his labors is manifest in a well improved place, which he has since cultivated with good results. He is engaged in dairying with good equipment for that work and he milks ten cows.

On the 30th of December, 1899, Mr. Kroll was united in marriage to Miss Lizzie Hoover, by whom he had nine children, namely: Edward; Frank; Albert; Pauline; Mary and Annie, twins; Peter and Josephine, twins; and Emma, who is deceased. In religious faith the family are Catholics. Mr. Kroll is not strongly allied with any political party but votes according to the dictates of his judgment. His life has been one of unremitting industry and the success which is his is the reward of earnest, persistent labor.

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#### GEORGE JIRTLE, SR.

No phase of pioneer life is unfamiliar to George Jirtle, Sr., who came to Door county at an early day. He remembers back to the time when bear and deer were numerous in the forest, when no roads had been cut through and when the work of progress and improvement was altogether in the future. The streams were unbridged and the forests uncut and there was little indication to show what changes were soon to be made, but resolute men like Mr. Jirtle undertook the task of developing this region and the results which they have accomplished are marvelous. Mr. Jirtle was born January 1, 1850, in Bohemia, and came to the United States in 1867, when a youth of seventeen years. It was four to five years later when his parents crossed the Atlantic. He first took up his abode in Milwaukee, where he worked in a brickyard for a year, and afterward spent two years in Kewaunee county. He also was employed for four seasons by C. C. Kahn, a sawmill owner at Little Suamico, Wisconsin. On the expiration of that period he came to Door county, which was just before the great fire, and purchased eighty acres of wild land. There were no roads to his farm and every indication of pioneer life was to be seen around him. It was not difficult for the early settlers to secure wild game or venison to supply the family board, and it was not unusual to see bears in the district. As the years have gone on Mr. Jirtle has continued the work of developing and improving his land and has transformed it into a valuable farm property.

On the 4th of August, 1877, Mr. Jirtle was united in marriage in Kewaunee, Wisconsin, to Miss Mary Paulu, who was born July 10, 1858. They have become the parents of five children, Joseph H., the eldest, followed teaching for three years and is now manager of a hardware store at Antigo, Wisconsin. The second is Emily, now Mrs. A. A. Stencil, of Brookfield, Ohio. The next is Charles



W., now at home. He was for nine years in the United States army, stationed in the Philippines as a member of the coast guard of the hospital corps. George, who was born August 20, 1882, died October 29, 1910. He pursued a short course in agriculture at the Wisconsin University and in 1904 he was united in marriage to Miss Luella Fagg. He was a member of the school board of his district and also a member of the republican central committee and he took an active and helpful interest in politics. In fact he was one of the leading and substantial young farmers and business men of his community and enjoyed to the fullest extent the high regard, confidence and goodwill of all with whom he came in contact, so that his death was greatly deplored by those who knew him. Francis, the youngest of the family, born August 25, 1883, died at the age of four years.

The religious faith of the family is that of the Catholic church, to the teachings of which Mr. Jirtle gives loyal support. In politics he supports the candidates whom he regards as best qualified for the office. He has been supervisor for one year, assessor for one year and school treasurer for twelve years. In fact he was one of the organizers of his school district, worked as one of its officers and loaned money to the district without interest. At all times he has manifested a public-spirited devotion to the schools and the welfare of his community and has cooperated in many plans and movements which have been directly beneficial. Mr. Jirtle is justly classed with the leading and substantial citizens of his county and he deserves much credit for what he has accomplished as the years have gone by. He came to America empty-handed but possessed industry and perseverance—qualities which constitute a sure foundation upon which to build success. As the years have gone on he has so directed his labors that he is now one of the substantial agriculturists of Clay Banks township, having a valuable home property on section 30.

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#### WILLIAM BASSFORD.

William Bassford, who has been connected with public interests at Sturgeon Bay as a real estate dealer, was born in Nottinghamshire, England, April 22, 1851, a son of George and Sarah (Eaton) Bassford, who were natives of England, the former born February 8, 1828, and the latter April 26, 1829. They were reared and married in their native country and in 1852 crossed the Atlantic to Canada, where the father engaged in railroading until 1856. In that year he came to Door county, Wisconsin, and purchased a half section of government land in Sevastopol township. Not a furrow had been turned nor an improvement made upon this place, and he at once undertook the arduous task of breaking the sod and bringing the land under cultivation. He continued to develop and improve the place throughout his remaining days. In Canada he had engaged in business as a railroad contractor. His wife died in 1857 and his death occurred January 22, 1902.

William Bassford was about two years of age when his parents came to the new world. He was largely reared and educated in Door county and in his youth assisted in the work in the fields, remaining with his father on the old

homestead farm until twenty-four years of age, when he began farming in Sevastopol township on his own account, there purchasing one hundred and sixty acres of land. He cleared eighty acres of this from the timber. At that time a cord of wood had practically no value and he gave away one hundred cords for the cutting. That wood today would be worth eight hundred dollars. When the trees were cleared away he turned the first furrows and continued the task of developing the fields for ten years. He then sold that property and turned his attention to the lumber business in which he continued successfully for twenty years. He next came to Sturgeon Bay and purchased a nice home which he has since occupied. He here became associated with his brother in a mercantile business. They erected a fine building and continued in business for about five years, since which time William Bassford has devoted his entire time to the real estate business. He is now the owner of an eighty acre tract of land in Sevastopol township, which he hires farmed and he also has a nine acre fruit orchard to which he gives his personal attention.

On the 11th of August, 1874, Mr. Bassford was married to Miss Charlotte Ash, a daughter of Richard and Mary (Veil) Ash, who were also natives of England, whence they came to America in early life. After residing a short time in Canada, they removed to Door county, Wisconsin, and the father purchased land in Sevastopol township. At the outbreak of the Civil war he responded to the country's call for troops to protect the Union, and became a member of Company F, Thirty-second Wisconsin Infantry, with which he served from 1861 until the close of the war. In 1865 he returned home and devoted his remaining days to agricultural pursuits. He died April 16, 1891, while his wife passed away April 25, 1914. Mr. and Mrs. Bassford have become the parents of four children: Sarah A., who was born May 5, 1881, and is the wife of H. A. Kumber, of Rhinelander, Wisconsin; William R., who was born April 2, 1884, and is now engaged in fruit raising in the state of Washington; Grace H., who was born July 14, 1898, and was graduated from the Sturgeon Bay high school with the class of 1917; and Everett, who was born May 30, 1900, and died October 14, 1904.

Mr. Bassford and his wife hold membership in the Methodist church and he is a staunch adherent of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He votes with the republican party but has never been an office seeker, preferring to concentrate his time and attention upon his business interests, which have been capably directed and have brought him very substantial success.

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#### MRS. MARGARET GLOVER BUSCHMAN.

Since 1882 Mrs. Margaret Glover Buschman has resided upon a farm of sixty acres on section 25, Nasewaupee township, and there has a good home. She was born October 9, 1858, in Grant county, Indiana, and had reached the age of eighteen years when on the 17th of June, 1877, she became the wife of Fred Buschman. He was born in Germany on the 15th of April, 1854, and in his childhood crossed the Atlantic to New York. In the '70s he arrived in Door county, Wisconsin, where he made his home until called to his final rest, his death oc-

curing January 24, 1913. He had traveled considerably and at one time was a cowboy out West.

It was in the year 1882 that Mr. and Mrs. Buschman took up their abode upon a farm of sixty acres on section 25, Nasewaupée township. This he cleared and at once began to develop and improve. He added to it modern accessories and conveniences, placing all of the improvements upon the land, and his labors resulted in transforming it into productive fields.

To Mr. and Mrs. Buschman were born nine children, of whom six passed away in infancy, Flora and Bertha having been laid to rest in Indiana, while Almeda, Christina, William, Anna and Martha were buried in Schumacher cemetery in Door county. The living children are: Ida, now the wife of George Leonard; Rosa, the wife of Frank Shaw; and Lilly, the wife of John Kramer, of Forestville. Mrs. Buschman is well known in this county, where she has long made her home, having for more than a third of century lived upon her present place.

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#### CHARLES GREISEN.

An active business career in which effort has been intelligently directed has brought Charles Greisen to the position which he occupies as one of the leading and prosperous merchants of Sturgeon Bay. He was born in North Schleswig, now northern Germany, February 10, 1854, a son of Laue and Elizabeth Greisen. The first seventeen years of his life were spent in his native country and in 1871 he crossed the Atlantic to the United States, attracted by the broader business opportunities which he believed he might secure on this side of the water. For a time he was employed at farm work in Iowa and in the spring of 1872 came to Wisconsin, where he has since made his home. For about five years he was employed in the sawmills and lumber camps at Oconto and in 1876 he went to Green Bay, where he attended business college for six months. On the expiration of that period he spent a brief time in Illinois but soon returned to this state, acting as bookkeeper and conducting a store for James Towle in Simcoe in 1878 and 1879. He then again went to Green Bay, where he once more studied, and in the spring of 1879 he established his home in Sturgeon Bay, where he entered the employ of Scofield & Company, having charge of their store until April, 1891.

In the latter year he embarked in business on his own account. In the intervening period he had carefully saved his earnings, imbued by the laudable ambition of one day engaging in business for himself. The year 1891 saw the fulfillment of his hopes. At that time he established a dry goods and clothing store and entered upon what has since been a prosperous career as a merchant of this city. In 1895 he began the erection of a building in which he installed his stock upon its completion, and such has been the growth of his trade that in 1912 he erected an addition to the building. He employs from four to six clerks and he carries a full line of dry goods, ladies' ready-to-wear clothing, shoes, carpets, rugs, cloaks and men's clothing and furnishings. His stock is attractive, being carefully chosen, and his business is planned upon the safe principle of quick sales bringing ready returns upon his investment. In business matters his

judgment is sound, his sagacity keen and his enterprise unfaltering, and for more than a quarter of a century he has now been numbered among the leading and representative merchants of his adopted city.

On the 2d of June, 1880, Mr. Greisen was united in marriage to Miss Mercy Dunlap, who was born in New York and was brought to Wisconsin by her parents when three years of age. The children of this marriage are as follows: Elijah, residing in Milwaukee, was graduated from the University of Wisconsin on the completion of the course in mechanical engineering and is now connected with the Power & Mining Machinery Company of Cudahy, Wisconsin. He has a wife and one child. Eva is a graduate nurse and is now superintendent of nurses at the School of Health Aides located at Wauwatosa, Wisconsin. Mercy is a graduate of the Stout School of Domestic Science and is cashier in her father's store. Clifford is also in the store. Howard is employed in a clerical capacity in the postoffice. Stanton is a high school pupil and completes the family.

Mr. Greisen belongs to the Knights of Pythias and to the Maccabees and his religious faith is indicated in his membership in the Moravian church. He exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the republican party and has been an active worker in its ranks because of his firm belief in its principles. He served as city treasurer of Sturgeon Bay in 1890 and for one term, in 1897, as mayor. While in office he has ever exercised his official prerogatives in behalf of public welfare. For seventeen years he served on the school board of Sturgeon Bay, acting as its president for three terms. The cause of education has ever found in him a stalwart champion and his efforts have been intelligently directed toward the benefit and improvement of the school system. When Mr. Greisen elected to come to America in his youthful days he believed that he could have better opportunities here, nor was he disappointed in this hope. He has never had occasion to regret his determination, and though his life has been one of unrelenting industry, it has led to success and not only has he won material prosperity but has also gained that which is more to be valued than riches—the respect, confidence and goodwill of his fellowmen.

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#### JACOB CRASS, Sr.

Prominent among the early settlers of Door county was Jacob Crass, Sr., who came to this locality in 1856 and who bore an important part in the development and upbuilding of this region. His early home was on the other side of the Atlantic, for he was born in Germany in 1824, and as his parents were in limited circumstances he early started out in life for himself. When a young man he came to the United States and continued his journey westward until reaching Wisconsin. He secured a tract of wild land in Sevastopol township, Door county, in 1856, and at once began to clear and improve this place. He continued to engage in agricultural pursuits until the Civil war broke out, when he put aside all personal interests and enlisted in Company H, Twelfth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and when his first term of service had expired he reenlisted and remained at the front until hostilities ceased. Although he took part in many



FOUR GENERATIONS OF THE ZETTEL FAMILY



important engagements he was never wounded, but exposure and hardships brought on rheumatism, which rendered him almost helpless in the latter years of his life.

Mr. Crass was first married to Salina Sackett and they had the following children, Sarah, Louise, Charles and Ida. On the 4th of July, 1869, he was married in Sevastopol township, to Mrs. Margaret (Cole) Melville, the widow of Thomas Melville. She was born in County Cork, Ireland, on the 20th of June, 1830, and was a daughter of Gregory Cole. She was reared and educated in her native land and was there married to Thomas Melville, who died leaving one child, Thomas, Jr., who is now a resident of Sevastopol township, Door county, and whose sketch appears on another page of this work. In 1862 Mrs. Melville came with her little son to the United States, and first located in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where she lived with an uncle, William Cole, before coming to Door county with him. To Mr. and Mrs. Crass were born three children, namely: Jacob, Jr., whose sketch appears below; Margaret, now the wife of William Ash, of Escanaba, Michigan; and William H., who died in infancy.

Mr. Crass took an active interest in public affairs and by his ballot supported the men and measures of the republican party, and he was always found true to his adopted country in days of peace as well as in time of war. He was an earnest and consistent member of the Lutheran church and in his death the county realized that they had lost a valued citizen. He passed away on the 21st of November, 1887, and his wife died in March, 1900, both being laid to rest in Bayside cemetery.

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#### JACOB CRASS, JR.

Jacob Crass, Jr., one of the representative farmers of Sevastopol township, and a son of Jacob and Margaret (Cole) Crass, was born on his father's homestead in this county April 26, 1870. His early life was passed in much the usual manner of farmer boys, assisting in the labors of the fields and attending the district schools until fifteen years of age. He then gave his father the benefit of his labors until he was married on the 28th of November, 1894, to Miss Catherine Zettel, a daughter of Joseph and Christina Zettel, of whom mention is made in the sketch of Julius Zettel on another page of this volume. To Mr. and Mrs. Crass have been born eight children, as follows: Luella, now a resident of Milwaukee; Hazel, the wife of Henry Delair, of Sevastopol township; Jacob, who died at the age of two years; and Roy, Martin, Earl, Christina and Donald, all at home.

After his marriage Mr. Crass engaged in farming forty acres of the old homestead until 1910, when he sold that tract. The following four years were spent in Sturgeon Bay but in the spring of 1917 he moved to the Zettel farm, which consists of the west half of the northwest quarter of section 27, Sevastopol township. Here he is now engaged in farming and is meeting with good success in his undertakings.

Mr. and Mrs. Crass attend the Methodist church and he affiliates with the republican party. For one term he served as clerk of the school board and he

has always taken a commendable interest in public affairs. In 1907 he was made overseer of the first work on crushed rock roads to be laid in Sevastopol township with the aid of the county, and was actively interested in that work for three years. He is an enterprising and progressive business man and is highly esteemed by all who know him.

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#### NICHOLAS ARNOLD WAGENER.

Nicholas Arnold Wagener, deceased, was long a well known citizen of Door county who filled various public offices, the duties of which he discharged with promptness and fidelity. He was born on the banks of the river Moselle in the Village of Croev, Prussia, January 4, 1844, a son of John Wagener and Catherine (Hergess) Wagener, who were also natives of Germany, where the father engaged in merchandising. On coming to America with his family he came to Wisconsin, settled in Manitowoc county in 1852 and engaged in farming for many years, meeting with success in the cultivation of his land. Finally he retired from active business and removed to Two Rivers, Wisconsin, where he made his home with his daughter the remainder of his days, his death occurring when he had reached the very advanced age of ninety-three years. His wife was eighty-seven years of age at the time of her demise.

Nicholas A. Wagener was a lad of eight years when he came with his parents to the United States. His boyhood was passed upon the home farm in Manitowoc county, Wisconsin, where at the age of sixteen years he tried to enlist but was refused on account of his youth. He then made his way to another recruiting station where he was accepted, and became a member of Company A, Fifth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, with which he served for four years or throughout the entire war. His regiment was attached to the Army of the Potomac and he participated in thirteen important battles. On one occasion he was slightly wounded, which forced him to remain in the hospital for seventeen days. His military record was a most creditable one for he proved a brave and loyal soldier, faithful to his country whether called to the firing line or stationed on the lonely picket line.

After the war Mr. Wagener went westward with his brother William to Ohio, where he engaged in the meat business for a time, but the venture proved unsuccessful and he hired out to the government as a mule driver and drove a wagon train as far as Denver, Colorado. He next went to Nebraska, where he engaged in the brewery business but did not find that profitable. After spending eight years on the western plains, he returned to Milwaukee in 1873 and accepted a position with the Blatz Brewing Company. In 1874 he came to Sturgeon Bay, where in partnership with his brother William he established a brewery which he conducted for many years. In 1878 he was appointed undersheriff of Door county, and in 1880 was elected to the office of sheriff, to which position he was reelected in 1884 and again in 1890, serving altogether as deputy and sheriff for fourteen years. He made a most excellent record in that office in apprehending criminals and in maintaining law and order, being ever prompt and fearless in the discharge of his duties. For six years he was also a member



of the city council and he occupied the position of city treasurer and was chief of the fire department. In the winters of 1892-3 he was postmaster of the state senate at Madison, Wisconsin, and in 1894 was appointed to the position of postmaster of Sturgeon Bay. He was one of the most popular men of the county, liked and respected by all. In a county which has a very large republican majority he was three times elected on the democratic ticket which indicates his personal popularity and the confidence imposed in him.

On the first of February, 1874, Mr. Wagener was united in marriage to Miss Isabelle A. Terrens, of Mishicot, Wisconsin, and to them were born seven children: Hubert, who is postmaster of Sturgeon Bay; Anna C., the wife of Edwin Wyatt, of Sturgeon Bay; Arnold, who died in 1877, at the age of eleven months; Arnold, who is engaged in the saloon business in Sturgeon Bay; William E., a practicing attorney; Walter, who is a pharmacist; and Lionel, who died January 11, 1914, at the age of twenty-seven years. Mrs. Wagener resides at No. 404 South Cedar Street and a part of the house which she occupies is the oldest residence in this section of the county, having been built about one hundred years ago.

Mr. Wagener belonged to the Sons of Hermann and also maintained pleasant relations with his old army comrades through his membership with the Grand Army of the Republic. In days of peace he was as true and loyal to his adopted country as when he followed the Stars and Stripes upon the battlefields of the south.

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#### NELS G. NELSON.

Nels G. Nelson, engaged in general farming on section 24, Forestville township, was born in Norway, January 11, 1868, a son of Nels and Mary (Olson) Gilbertson, who were likewise natives of the land of the midnight sun, where the death of the mother occurred. The father afterwards came to the United States, crossing the Atlantic in 1883, and then making his way westward to Wisconsin. He took up his abode in Clay Banks township, Door county, where he purchased forty acres and at once began to develop and improve the land, devoting his remaining days to its cultivation. He was a republican in his political views and was interested in matters of progressive citizenship. He died in 1893 at the age of sixty-four years.

Nels G. Nelson spent his boyhood in Norway to the age of fifteen years, when he came to the new world with his father, with whom he worked for two years. He afterward removed to Polk county, Minnesota, where he devoted ten years to farm work and in 1899 he came to Forestville township, Door county, and invested his savings, acquired by unabating energy and close economy, in eighty acres of land to which he has since added twenty acres, transforming this into a well improved farm. He erected good buildings thereon and converted the place into productive fields. In fact he added all the modern accessories and conveniences of a modern farm and today has an excellent property, from which he is annually gathering large crops that make his income a very desirable one.

In 1899 Mr. Nelson was united in marriage to Miss Matilda Tollefson, a daughter of Math and Martha Tollefson. She was a native of Nicollet county, Minnesota, and her parents were natives of Norway, whence they came to the new world in 1861. In their family were six children, Manley, Arthur, George, William, John and Alice.

Mr. Nelson votes with the republican party and has been somewhat active in local political circles. He served for nine years as township supervisor and made an excellent record, discharging his duties with promptness and fidelity. He was also school clerk for fourteen years and he has been the secretary of the Norwegian Lutheran church in which he holds membership. His has been an honorable and useful life and he has been guided by the teachings of the church in all of his relations with his fellowmen.

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#### ADOLPH WILLIAM MILLER.

Starting out in the business world as a clerk at a wage of three dollars per week, Adolph William Miller is now numbered among the enterprising merchants of Sturgeon Bay, where since 1901 he has conducted the only exclusive men's clothing and furnishing goods store of the city. The steps in his progression are easily discernible. He has based his advancement upon close application and fidelity and in the faithful performance of his daily duties has developed the powers which now class him with the representative merchants of his city. Moreover, he is yet a comparatively young man. He was born in Bay county, Michigan, April 12, 1875, a son of J. F. and Mary Miller, the former a native of Michigan and the latter of Germany. The mother was brought to the United States when but four years of age. J. F. Miller prepared for the ministry and has for many years been a well known representative of the Lutheran clergy. He and his wife still reside in Bay City, Michigan.

A public school education qualified Adolph W. Miller for life's practical and responsible duties, yet his textbooks were put aside at the age of thirteen years that he might provide for his own support. He began earning his living by working as a farm hand and was also early employed in the lumber camps. He was a youth of sixteen when he started as a clerk at three dollars per week. In 1896 he came to Sturgeon Bay, where he entered the employ of Charles Greisen, with whom he remained for three years. He was afterward in the Washburn store for two years and in 1901 he embarked in business on his own account, having in the meantime carefully saved his earnings until his industry and economy had made him the possessor of a capital sufficient to enable him to secure a stock of men's clothing and furnishings. He is now conducting the only exclusive store of the kind in Sturgeon Bay. He carries an attractive line of goods and puts forth every effort to please his patrons and is reasonable in his prices, seeking only to make a fair profit.

On the 3d of June, 1902, Mr. Miller was united in marriage to Miss Mollie Sorenson, a daughter of C. L. Sorenson, of Sturgeon Bay, and they have three children, Gerhard, Elwin and Marion. In politics Mr. Miller is a republican but has never been ambitious to hold public office, preferring to concentrate his ef-

forts and attention upon his business. He is indeed a self-made man and one whose record should serve to inspire and encourage others, showing what may be accomplished through determined purpose guided by laudable ambition and sound judgment.

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#### EXOR P. DE JARDINE.

Exor P. De Jardine, a well known citizen of Jacksonport, was born in Canada on the 23d of February, 1880, a son of Exor P. and Delphine (Baskie) De Jardine, both natives of the province of Quebec, Canada. His education was acquired in the schools of Jacksonport township, Door county, which he attended until he was sixteen years old. The following eight years were devoted to assisting his father with the operation of the home farm and at the end of that time he bought eighty acres of good land, which he cultivated on his own account for two years. He was then compelled to give up agricultural work, for while sawing wood his right arm was amputated just below the elbow, and he turned his attention to canvassing. For a number of years he has engaged in selling medicines throughout Door county, and as he represents a reliable house and as he is an enterprising and efficient salesman he is meeting with gratifying success in his work.

Mr. De Jardine was united in marriage to Miss Mabel Gerard, a daughter of Louis and Louise Gerard, who were pioneer settlers of Jacksonport township but are now living retired in Neenah, this state. To Mr. and Mrs. De Jardine have been born six children, namely, Ella, Neva, Genevieve, Harold, Mercedes and Ralph.

Mr. De Jardine is a democrat in his political belief and is now serving for the seventh year as township treasurer, his long tenure of that office indicating the capability with which he discharges his duties. He holds membership in the Mystic Workers and is well liked both within and without that organization. He deserves great credit for what he has accomplished, for he has not only made all that he has himself but has worked under a handicap that would dishearten a man of irresolute spirit.

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#### WILLIAM J. FINNEGAN.

William J. Finnegan, a well known and enterprising farmer residing in Jacksonport township, was born in Hastings county, Ontario, Canada, January 1, 1866. His parents, Patrick and Anna (Conlon) Finnegan, were born in Ireland but were married in Canada. To them were born seven children: Patrick, who is living in Cahill, Ontario; Rose, the wife of Grant Arthur, of Menominee, Michigan; one who died in infancy; Katherine, who married Herman Felia, of Tacoma, Washington; Elizabeth, the wife of George Ferguson, of Menominee, Michigan; Ellen, now Mrs. John McGuire, of Menominee; and William J. The father followed agricultural pursuits in Canada until 1880, when he came with

his family to Door county, Wisconsin, and purchased forty acres of land in Jacksonport township. As the years passed this wild tract was cleared, brought under cultivation and improved, and Mr. Finnegan made a good profit from the sale of his farm produce. At length, however, he went to Menominee, Michigan, where his last days were passed and where his death occurred in 1888. He is interred in a cemetery there, and his wife, who died in Sturgeon Bay in 1904, is buried in the Catholic cemetery at that place.

William J. Finnegan received his education in the common schools of Ontario, as after the removal of the family to Door county his time was entirely taken up with assisting his father in the development of the homestead. Later he worked for others until he was married and removed to the homestead of his wife's parents. His well directed labors have been rewarded with large crops and as he has given close study to market conditions he has been able to sell his grain and also his stock to good advantage.

On the 2d of March, 1904, occurred the marriage of Mr. Finnegan and Miss Mary O'Leary. Her parents removed from Maine to Door county and her father died a short time later. The mother has also passed away and both are buried in the Catholic cemetery in Jacksonport. Mr. and Mrs. Finnegan have a daughter, Marie.

In religious faith Mr. Finnegan is a Roman Catholic and the work of that church receives his hearty support. He is a democrat in politics but has never been an office seeker as his agricultural interests have demanded his undivided attention. He began his career empty-handed but has by his own efforts gained a competence.

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#### JOSEPH G. DALEMONT.

An excellent farm of two hundred acres situated on section 9, Gardner township, is the property of Joseph G. Dalemont and pays tribute to the owner for the care and labor which he bestows upon the fields. His practical business methods bring substantial results and he is progressive in all that he undertakes. He was born in Belgium, February 25, 1854, and was but two years of age when brought to the United States by his parents, John B. and Frances Dalemont, who on crossing the Atlantic made their way into the interior of the country, settling first in Kewaunee county, Wisconsin, where they lived for a year. On the expiration of that period they came to Door county and here the father followed the blacksmith's trade, which he had learned in his native land. He was a son of John B. Dalemont, Sr., who on coming to America bought land in Kewaunee county but soon after went to work with his son, John, Jr., in the blacksmith shop, while subsequently he purchased eighty acres of land and again turned his attention to farming. In the community in which he lived John B. Dalemont took an active part in furthering public progress by his support of many measures that were calculated to advance the general good. He was much interested in the cause of education and was associated with William Babbist, Robert Stevenson and A. J. Bossman, in establishing school district No. 1, which was the first district in the township. He served as a director of the school for several years and he was



JOSEPH G. DALEMONT



also called to the office of township supervisor, in which capacity he remained for three years. In his family were the following named: Jule; Leona; Mary, who died in infancy; Joseph G.; Louise, who became the wife of N. J. Delfosse and died two years after her marriage; Charlotte, the wife of Frank Solomon; Jennie; and Adeline, the wife of Alec Delveaux. The father died in 1901 at the age of eighty-one years, while his widow survived until 1913 and reached the advanced age of eighty-nine years. Both were buried in the Gardner township cemetery.

Joseph G. Dalemont acquired a common school education in the district schools near his father's home and also spent six months as a student in an academy at Madison. He assisted his father in the shop and learned the blacksmith's trade during his early boyhood and he afterward aided in the arduous task of clearing land. At length he began farming on his own account on the place where he now resides and through the intervening period he has given his attention to general agricultural pursuits. He is now the owner of an excellent property of two hundred acres which he cleared. He has fine improvements on his place, including an attractive residence, good barns and outbuildings well constructed and modern farm machinery. His plans are carefully formed and promptly executed and from the time of early spring planting until crops are harvested in late autumn his efforts are most intelligently directed, so that success has come to him in substantial measure. Aside from his farming interests he is a stockholder in the telephone company. His political endorsement is given to the republican party, of which he is a stalwart advocate, and his religious belief is that of the Spiritualist church. That his fellow townsmen have high appreciation of his worth is indicated by the many times that he has been called to public office. He served for eight years as county treasurer and made a most faithful custodian of the public funds. He has been chairman of the township board for thirty years altogether and has been clerk of the township for three years, and was also postmaster at Little Sturgeon ten years. His long continuance in office is unmistakable proof of his capability, his fidelity and his trustworthiness. Those who know him, and he has a wide acquaintance, recognize in him a man whose reliability is above question. His entire life has been passed in this county and that his record has ever been an honorable and straightforward one is indicated by the fact that many of his stanchest friends are those who have known him from boyhood to the present time.

On the 26th of September, 1898, occurred the marriage of Joseph G. Dalemont and Miss Josephine Lesuisse, of Gardner. They have one child, Felix, born April 5, 1904.

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#### JAMES A. SPALSBURY, D. D. S.

Dentistry is unique among the professions in that it demands a threefold capability. The successful dentist must possess not only broad scientific knowledge in the line of his profession but he must have also marked mechanical skill and the ability to direct the financial side of his business. Qualified in all these particulars, Dr. James A. Spalsbury is now enjoying a good practice in Sturgeon Bay, where he opened his office in 1904. He was born in Clay Banks township,

this county, November 17, 1882, a son of James Erwin and Anna (Lawson) Spalsbury. The father came to Door county in 1866 with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Spalsbury, of Pennsylvania. The mother was a daughter of Alexander Lawson, a native of Ireland, who also arrived in Door county in the year 1866 and here took up the occupation of farming. It was in this county that James E. Spalsbury was reared and after attaining his majority he turned his attention to the occupation of farming, which he followed successfully for many years. In 1896, however, he abandoned the work of the fields and for a time was engaged in the hotel business but at the present writing is conducting a livery stable at Sawyer.

Spending his youthful days under the parental roof, Dr. Spalsbury attended the public and high schools, being graduated with the class of 1901. In preparation for a professional career he then entered Marquette University as a dental student and won his D. D. S. degree upon graduation with the class of 1904. He at once opened an office in Sturgeon Bay, where he has since practiced. Gradually his business has grown until he now has a very liberal share of the public patronage in his line. His office is well equipped with the latest improved dental instruments and appliances and he is skilled in their use, while his practice is based upon thorough familiarity with the scientific principles which underlie his work.

On the 16th of October, 1907, Dr. Spalsbury was married to Miss Gretchen Staudt, of Manitowoc, Wisconsin, and they have a son, John Henry, who is in his first year. Dr. Spalsbury holds membership with the Knights of Pythias and he gives his political support to the democratic party, believing firmly in its principles. His entire life has been passed in this county and his record has ever been one that would bear close investigation and scrutiny. He has been actuated by a laudable purpose in his business and at all times his course has measured up to high standards of manhood and citizenship.

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#### ALFRED JOME.

Alfred Jome, busily engaged in farm work on section 1, Forestville township, on which place he has spent his entire life, was born February 7, 1877, his parents being Knute and Carrie (Rice) Jome, both of whom were natives of Norway. The parents left Norway in early life. The father came with his parents to the new world in 1872 and the family home was established first in Manitowoc, Wisconsin, where the grandfather purchased land upon which he and his wife spent their remaining days. Knute Jome was reared on the old homestead there to the age of seventeen years, when he started out to provide for his own support by going to Minnesota, where he engaged in railroad work. In the fall of 1872 he came to Forestville and bought eighty acres, which was covered with the native growth of timber. He at once began the work of clearing the place so as to plow the land and plant his crops. He brought his fields to a high state of cultivation and ultimately added forty acres to his original purchase, residing thereon until 1915, when he removed to Sawyer, where he is now living retired at the age of sixty-nine years, enjoying a rest which he has truly earned. His



wife has reached the age of sixty-four years. Both are consistent members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, and in his political views Mr. Jome has been a republican since taking out his naturalization papers.

Alfred Jome spent his youthful days on the old homestead farm and was educated in Forestville, dividing his time between the duties of the school room, the pleasures of the playground and the work of the fields. He has never sought to change his occupation, finding farming a congenial pursuit, and he now has a well improved place, which he is carefully and successfully cultivating, substantial crops rewarding his labors.

On June 20, 1907, Mr. Jome was united in marriage to Miss Rickke Halverson, a daughter of Halver and Carrie (Viste) Halverson, who were natives of Norway and on coming to America settled in Clay Banks township, Door county, Wisconsin, where they were married. It was in that township that Mrs. Jome was born and by her marriage she has become the mother of five children, Kermit, Bernice, Lorain, Franklin and Florence.

Alfred Jome can remember back to a period when pioneer conditions existed in Door county. His parents were among the earliest settlers here and at the time of their arrival wild game was plentiful, Indians were numerous and every evidence of frontier life was to be found. Algoma was the nearest market and few roads had been laid out through the wilderness. They began the work of developing the farm, a work which has been continued by Alfred Jome, and their contribution to the agricultural development of the section was a valuable one.

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#### AUGUST MOELLER.

August Moeller is one of the representative farmers of Sevastopol township, where he was born on the 23d of April, 1873, his parents being Marcus and Pulchira Moeller, of whom extended mention is made in the sketch of Frank J. Moeller on another page of this volume. He is the third in order of birth in a family of ten children, and is the oldest now living. During his boyhood and youth he attended the district schools during the winter months until thirteen years of age, and then devoted his entire time and attention to assisting his father in the operation of the home farm, remaining under the parental roof until twenty-one years of age. On starting out in life for himself he engaged in farming on rented land and was forty years of age when he purchased his first property, consisting of the south half of the southwest quarter of section 10, Sevastopol township, that his father had bought in 1890. Our subject resided thereon until March 1917, when he removed to his present farm, consisting of the south half of the southeast quarter of section 16, Sevastopol township, which he had purchased in 1916. On the 26th of June, 1911, Mr. Moeller had contracted to buy his present place, but while clearing the timber from the tract a big carrier in the barn fell on him, breaking his back in three places. He was thus disabled for several months but is now entirely recovered.

On the 29th of October, 1895, Mr. Moeller was united in marriage to Miss Christina Zettel, a daughter of Rudolph and Gertrude (Burns) Zettel, early set-

tlers of Sevastopol township. Her father came to Door county in 1863 and located on the farm now owned and operated by our subject. Here he passed away May 30, 1915, and was buried in the Catholic cemetery at Sturgeon Bay. In that city the mother of Mrs. Moeller is now living. To Mr. and Mrs. Moeller have been born two children, but Arthur died at the age of ten months and was buried in St. Joseph's Catholic cemetery, and Adolph R. M., the only living child, was born November 9, 1903.

In religious faith the family are Catholics and Mr. Moeller also holds membership in the Catholic Order of Foresters and the Catholic Knights of Wisconsin. He was one of the first in Door county to engage in the construction of macadamized roads and for the past seventeen years has devoted considerable attention to the building of those highways. In 1914 he was elected county highway commissioner and acceptably filled that position for one term. Always an industrious and hard working man he has met with success in his undertakings, and is today regarded as one of the leading citizens of his community.

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#### REV. JOHN GROENFELDT.

No history of the moral development of Door county would be complete were there failure to make reference to the Rev. John Groenfeldt. The name is inseparably interwoven with the churchly activities of Ephraim, where he and his father and his brother have all served as ministers of the Moravian church. He was born August 17, 1865, in Ephraim, and is a brother of the Rev. Samuel Groenfeldt, mentioned elsewhere in this work. He attended the district schools and was a diligent and painstaking student. At the age of eleven years he entered the Military Academy at Nazareth Hall, Pennsylvania, and was graduated from that institution with the highest honors, receiving a gold medal in recognition of his superior scholarship. In 1880 he became a student in the Moravian College at Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, from which he was graduated with valedictorian honors as a member of the class of 1884. He then entered the theological department in the fall of 1884 and completed that course by graduation in 1886.

Ordained to the ministry of the Moravian church in that year, Mr. Groenfeldt served for several years as a home missionary in Missouri and Kansas, where he was instrumental in building several churches. He afterward accepted the pastorate of the church in Ephraim, of which he had charge for seven years. Both he and his brother have served as pastors in this village, where they were born and where their father was a home missionary for more than nineteen years. After leaving Ephraim, Rev. John Groenfeldt went to Green Bay and was minister of the West Side Moravian church for about five years, this being one of the strong churches of Wisconsin. About nine years he was pastor of one of the largest churches in the east—that at Nazareth, Pennsylvania, and for two years he was pastor of a Moravian church in Brooklyn, New York. He is now serving as a church evangelist and is doing splendid work in this connection. His ministry has been greatly blessed and he is regarded as one of the leading preachers of his denomination. While pastor in the east he was in demand as a Young Men's



REVS. J. J., SAMUEL AND JOHN GROENFELDT



Christian Association speaker, being unusually well posted in the Word and a very convincing, earnest and fluent talker.

In November, 1891, Rev. Groenfeldt was united in marriage in Chicago, Illinois, to Miss Marie Benson, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Benson. They have no children of their own but have adopted a daughter, Elsie, who is now about sixteen years of age and who is now having the benefit of good educational opportunities and of training in a Christian home. She is especially gifted in music and her talents in that direction are being cultivated.

It would be almost tautological in this connection to enter into any series of statements showing Rev. Groenfeldt to be a man of scholarly attainments, for this has been shadowed forth between the lines of this review; but it is just to say in a history that will descend to future generations that he is also a man of broadest sympathy, with ready understanding of human nature which enables him to speak a tactful word and extend a helping hand where aid is most needed. His labors indeed have been fruitful of good results and he has not been denied the full harvest nor the aftermath of his efforts.

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#### REV. SAMUEL GROENFELDT.

Rev. Samuel Groenfeldt is pastor of the Moravian church at Ephraim, in which connection he is doing splendid work in promoting the moral development of the community. He was born in Ephraim, August 11, 1867, and is a son of the Rev. J. J. and Mary E. (Loding) Groenfeldt, who were natives of Denmark. The father was also a minister of the Gospel and thus through two generations the work of preparing people for practical activities and for the life to come has been carried on by the Groenfeldt family. The father was born in North Schleswig, Denmark, November 30, 1834, and was baptized and confirmed according to the rite of the Danish Lutheran church. In young manhood he became acquainted with members of the Moravian congregation in Christianfeld, North Schleswig, and being convinced of their sincerity and high Christian purpose, he joined that organization on the 13th of August, 1860. Not long afterward he felt the call to the ministry and began preparation for teaching the Gospel. After a little while he became a home missionary of the church in America. On the 12th of June, 1864, Rev. Groenfeldt was united in marriage to Miss Marie Elisa Loding, who likewise had offered her services to the Moravian church. In September, 1864, they arrived in Ephraim, Wisconsin, where they met the difficult experiences of the pioneer preacher's life. For several years Rev. Groenfeldt served at the mission at Sturgeon Bay in connection with his pastorate at Ephraim but resided in the latter place and every four or five weeks in both summer and winter he walked the entire distance from Ephraim to Sturgeon Bay and frequently made extra trips to Clay Banks, making his missionary trip of about one hundred miles per week. For nearly twenty years he remained the pastor of the Ephraim church. To him and his wife were born six children, of whom two died in infancy, while a son, Martin, passed away at the age of eleven years and Mary was called to the home beyond at the age of sixteen. In Ephraim his first wife died in June, 1879, and he was still residing in Ephraim when he was again married, his second wife being Miss

Katherine Duus, a lifelong friend of his first wife. His surviving children are: the Rev. John Groenfeldt, of Winona Lake, Indiana; and the Rev. Samuel Groenfeldt of this review. After leaving the pastorate of Ephraim in 1883 Rev. Groenfeldt served Green Bay and Grand Rapids, Wisconsin, and on the 11th of September, 1904, at Grand Rapids, Wisconsin, at the age of seventy years closed his active ministry after forty years devoted to the work of teaching the Gospel. It was not long afterward, however, that he again took up active duty, becoming assistant pastor of the West Side Moravian church at Green Bay, while making his home at De Pere. There he continued for twelve years, so that he devoted fifty-two years of his life to actual service in the ministry. His was a most beautiful Christian character and his life one of the utmost nobility. He reached the age of eighty-two years, four months and eleven days and then passed on, but who can measure the extent of his influence, which is still felt in the lives of all with whom he came in contact. His memory is revered by those who knew him and remains as a blessed benediction to those with whom he was associated.

Rev. Samuel Groenfeldt was reared in Ephraim and after attending the public schools to the age of twelve years he entered the military academy known as Nazareth Hall, there remaining during the year 1879. In 1882 he became a student in the Moravian College at Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, from which he was graduated on the completion of a collegiate course in 1886. In the fall of the same year he entered the theological department of the same college and was graduated therefrom in June, 1888. On the 15th of that month he was ordained to the ministry of the Moravian church and took up the active work of preaching the Gospel, spending two months as assistant pastor at Ephraim. In the fall of 1888 he accepted a call to the congregation at Sturgeon Bay, which was then a home mission charge. He continued in active work there for twenty-one years, leaving a parish in 1909 with a membership of four hundred, this being regarded as one of the best churches in the western district. He next received an appointment as church evangelist, in which capacity he labored for five years, but the strain of the work was so great that it necessitated him asking for a year's furlough for rest and recuperation. During that time the Ephraim pastorate became vacant and at the earnest request of the elders of the church he took temporary charge of the field, in which capacity he is still serving. The church in Ephraim has been enlarged to twice its former capacity and marked growth has been made in the church at Sister Bay, which is also under the care of Rev. Groenfeldt. He is an earnest and convincing speaker, a sympathetic man, a devout Christian, actuated by the utmost zeal in his work and his labors have brought splendid results in the moral development of the communities in which he has labored.

On the 24th of October, 1900, Rev. Groenfeldt was united in marriage to Miss Amy Belle Long, a daughter of Frank and Agnes Long, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this work. They became the parents of two children: James Francis, who was born May 24, 1904, and entered the Sturgeon Bay high school in the fall of 1917; and John Samuel, born August 28, 1917.

In politics Rev. Groenfeldt has always followed an independent course. He is interested in all matters of citizenship and has done effective work in promoting public welfare. He is greatly loved not only by the people of his own congregation but by others as well because of his upright life and his many admirable traits of character. He is a man of strong intellectual force, keen in his judg-

ment, clear in his reasoning and forceful in his deductions. Moreover, he has a close sympathy with those to whom the path of life seems a difficult road to follow and is ever extending a helping hand or speaking a word of encouragement. His labors in this county have borne rich fruit and he has indeed left an indelible impression upon its history.

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#### ANTON BRANDL.

Anton Brandl, the proprietor of a well patronized blacksmith shop in Brussels township, has spent his entire life in Door county and is one of its best known citizens. He was born in Nasewaupée township, July 29, 1887, a son of Joseph and Catherine Brandl, both natives of Austria. On emigrating to the United States in young manhood the father first located in Green Bay, where he was employed in a brewery for three years. He next removed to Sturgeon Bay and some time later purchased one hundred and sixty acres of timber land in Nasewaupée township, which he cleared and improved by erecting a log house. In 1900 he built an attractive frame residence upon his place, which in the meantime he had brought to a high state of cultivation. He is now, however, living retired in Sawyer at the age of sixty-nine years, and his wife is sixty years old. She came to the United States with friends when a girl of sixteen years and took up her residence in Green Bay, where her marriage later occurred.

Anton Brandl passed his boyhood and youth upon the home farm in Nasewaupée township, and his education was acquired in the district schools. From early boyhood he gave much of his time to assisting his father and after putting aside his textbooks concentrated his energies upon the operation of the homestead until 1914. He then came to Brussels township and purchased his present business. His blacksmith shop is well equipped and the high standard of work which he turns out has led to the building up of a large and profitable trade. He is still a young man and the success which he has already gained is an indication that still greater prosperity is in store for him. His sterling worth is attested by the fact that those who have known him intimately since boyhood are his staunchest friends.

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#### MARTIN B. PETERSON.

The geographical situation of Sturgeon Bay naturally has promoted navigation and kindred interests and among those who are active in this field is Martin B. Peterson, who in early manhood took up the boat building business and is today controlling important interests of that character as president of the Peterson Boat Works. He was born in Denmark, March 17, 1874, and is a son of Nels F. Peterson, who in 1883 brought his family to Wisconsin, settling in Racine.

Martin B. Peterson was at that time a little lad of nine years. When his textbooks were put aside he began learning the boat building trade and was in the employ of various concerns in that line at Racine for twelve years. He

afterward spent ten months in Duluth, Minnesota, and in 1906 came to Sturgeon Bay. He was employed for three years by the Sturgeon Bay Boat Manufacturing Company and in 1908 began the building of boats on his own account under the style of the Peterson Boat Works. He builds all classes of boats, from a canoe to a seventy-five foot boat with a thirty-five ton capacity, and each year he builds about three or four large boats and many small ones. He has won a reputation for great thoroughness in his work and the number of his patrons has steadily increased, his business becoming one of the substantial industries of the city. Mr. Peterson also operates a launch of his own, The Challenger, which is used in the freight and passenger service.

Mr. Peterson has been married twice. He first wedded Mary Ann Sherwood, a native of Michigan and a daughter of James Sherwood, who was living in Racine, Wisconsin, at the time of his daughter's marriage. She passed away in January, 1907, and Mr. Peterson has since married Minnie Ann Hayes, of Sturgeon Bay. By his first marriage he had six children: Bertha Ruth, now the wife of Jake Simon, of Racine; Fred, who is with his father in business; Martin, residing in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Walter, who died in February, 1916, at the age of seventeen years; Mary, at home; and Robert, who was adopted at the time of his mother's death by C. A. Lunberg, of Fish Creek. By the second marriage Mr. Peterson has one son, Archie B., now eight years of age.

Mr. Peterson has membership with the Beavers, to which his wife and two older sons also belong. His political endorsement is given to the republican party where national issues are involved but at local elections he casts an independent ballot. His life has been one of untiring industry and his capability and powers have increased as the years have gone on and experience has added to his skill and knowledge.

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#### HARRY F. SCOFIELD.

No history of Sturgeon Bay would be complete were there failure to make prominent reference to the Scofield family, which has been represented in this city for thirty-seven years. He whose name introduces this review is the president of the Scofield Company, conducting the second largest hardware business in the state. He was born in Pensaukee, Wisconsin, March 13, 1861, and is a son of Charles and Maria H. (Stacy) Scofield, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this work in connection with the history of their son, Herbert C. Scofield. The father figured for many years as a prominent factor in the lumber trade of Wisconsin, was the first mayor of Sturgeon Bay and a very prominent and influential citizen in connection with the promotion of public affairs here.

In the country schools Harry F. Scofield mastered the branches of learning therein taught, and when his textbooks were put aside he became an active assistant to his father in the lumber business, continuing his activities in that field until the father sold out. Harry F. Scofield then sailed the Lakes for ten years and advanced through various promotions to that of chief engineer. In 1880 he purchased an interest in the Scofield Hardware Company, which had been



established by his brother the previous year, and since that date he has been active in the management and control of the business, which has steadily grown and developed until it is the largest of the kind in Sturgeon Bay and with one exception the largest in the state. The business was incorporated in 1900, at which time Harry F. Scofield was chosen president and has so continued. He closely studies every phase of the business and the questions relative to its successful conduct and displays sound judgment and keen insight in regard to commercial activity.

Mr. Scofield has been married twice. He first wedded Nellie Wilson, a daughter of Captain George T. Wilson, of Sturgeon Bay. In 1909 he married Helen Basford, of this city, a daughter of John Basford, now a resident of Minneapolis. There is one child by the second marriage, Gladys Ida. Mr. Scofield exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the republican party and keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day but has never been an office seeker, preferring to concentrate his undivided time and attention upon his business affairs. Persistent purpose and indefatigable energy have brought him success and his life record illustrates the possibilities for accomplishment in this land of opportunity.

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#### HERMAN KARNOPP.

Herman Karnopp, whose place of residence is on section 26, Nasewaupsee township, where he is carrying on general farming, was born on the 28th of April, 1849, in Pomerania, Germany. While still in his native land he served for two years in the German army. He came to America in 1874, landing at New York, whence he made his way westward to Manitowoc county, Wisconsin. He then went to Kewaunee county, where he remained a short time, after which he went to Sheboygan. There he learned the tanner's trade, which he followed for thirty-three years, becoming well known as a representative of the business there. In 1905 he removed to Door county, where he purchased eighty acres of land, and since that time he has added forty acres, so that he now owns one hundred and twenty acres in all. His place constitutes a fine farm to which he has added various modern improvements in the way of good buildings. Well kept fences divide his farm into fields of convenient size. He is also a stockholder in the cheese factory and carries on dairying. Whatever he undertakes is successfully accomplished, for he is a man of persistent purpose and indefatigable energy.

On the 26th of November, 1875, Mr. Karnopp was united in marriage to Miss Albertina Gentz, a native of Germany, whence she came to the new world at the age of eighteen years. She was born January 10, 1856, in Pomerania, and she was married in Manitowoc county. To Mr. and Mrs. Karnopp have been born nine children. Otto, who is married, is engaged in business as a cheese maker of Brown county. Tillie is now the wife of Otto Bixby, living at Rockford, Illinois. Lydia is the wife of Tony Becker, of Beloit, Wisconsin. Theodore is a cheese maker of Milwaukee. Reinhard is engaged in the same line of business at Algoma. Clara makes her home at Freeport, Illinois. Elsie is

now the wife of Carl Magle, of Sturgeon Bay township. Walter and Henry are at home.

The religious faith of the family is that of the German Lutheran church, while the political belief of Mr. Karnopp is that of the democratic party. He has always concentrated his attention upon his business affairs, never seeking office, and his persistency of purpose is indicated in the fact that he was for thirty-three years connected with a tannery at Sheboygan. He is now well known as a progressive agriculturist of Nasewaupee township, his careful management resulting in the achievement of success in his work.

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#### YNGRE VIKING DREUTZER.

No history of Sturgeon Bay would be complete without extended reference to Yngre Viking Dreutzer, who for many years was a prominent member of the bar and active in official connections. His worth was widely recognized, not only in his professional connections but in all personal associations. He was a man of high ideals and eagerly embraced every opportunity to raise himself to their level. Mr. Dreutzer was born in Waupaca, Wisconsin, November 9, 1857, and his life record covered the intervening years to the 2d of January, 1907, when he passed to the home beyond. He was a son of General D. E. Dreutzer, who became an early settler of Wisconsin and for many years was a leading jurist of this state, occupying a very prominent position as a representative of the Wisconsin bar.

Mr. Dreutzer whose name introduces this review was indebted to the public school system of Waupaca for the early educational opportunities which he enjoyed. He then had further advantages along educational lines, becoming a student in Lawrence University, from which he was in due time graduated, winning the degree of Bachelor of Arts. He secured practical legal training under the direction of his father, and having further qualified for law practice, was admitted to the bar in 1881. He became a resident of Sturgeon Bay in 1874 and after being licensed to practice law was associated with his father for several years. While advancement at the bar is proverbially slow, no dreary novitiate awaited him. Along with those qualities indispensable to the lawyer—a keen, rapid, logical mind, plus the business sense and a ready capacity for hard work—he brought to the starting point of his legal career certain rare gifts—eloquence of language and a strong personality. An excellent presence, marked strength of character, a thorough grasp of the law and the ability to accurately apply its principles were factors in his effectiveness as an advocate and won for him the liberal clientage which was his for many years. He was also called upon for official service in the line of his profession. He served for seven terms as city attorney and in 1891 he was elected district attorney, which office he filled until his demise, his last term expiring on the day of his burial. He had refused to become a candidate for the office again on account of the pressure of other business interests and also on account of the condition of his health. His word was accepted as authority in this part of the state on all legal questions, for he was a man of well balanced intellect, thoroughly familiar with the law and practice, possessing, too, comprehensive general information, combined with an analytical



*Y. V. Orutze*

children: Eugenia, the wife of B. D. Thorp, proprietor of the Eagle Inn at Ephraim; Albert W., who is in the Chicago post office; Clarence S., of this review; and Addie M., the wife of H. M. Nelson, a resident of Ephraim.

Clarence S. Smith, whose name introduces this review, was reared and educated in Ephraim and remained with his father as clerk until finally he bought out the business in 1907. He has since conducted the store and has a well appointed establishment, carrying a carefully selected line of goods, while his reliable business methods and enterprise insure to him a continuance of a liberal patronage.

In addition to his commercial interests Mr. Smith is well known in other connections, being a stockholder and director of the Door County State Bank of Sturgeon Bay.

On the 5th of June, 1912, Mr. Smith was united in marriage to Miss Flora M. Oneson, a daughter of Bernt and Dena Oneson, the former a native of Ephraim and the latter of Norway. Her father is now a contractor of Racine and he and his wife make their home in that city. In his political views Mr. Smith is a stalwart republican, having supported the party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. His fellow townsmen have called him to a number of local offices. He has served as town clerk for ten years and his long incumbency in that position indicates most clearly his capability and fidelity in the discharge of his duties. His religious faith is that of the Moravian church. His entire life has been actuated by high and honorable principles and the sterling traits of his character are those which insure him the warm regard and goodwill of his fellow townsmen.

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#### HUBERT A. WAGENER.

Hubert A. Wagener has been called to public office by his fellow townsmen, who have recognized that he is ever loyal in positions of trust and responsibility. He is now serving as postmaster at Sturgeon Bay, to which position he was called in 1915. He was born in this city December 15, 1875, and is a son of Arnold and Isabelle (Terrens) Wagener, a sketch of whom appears on another page of this work.

Hubert A. Wagener acquired a public school education and afterward pursued a pharmaceutical course in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, thus qualifying for the conduct of a drug business. He opened a drug store in Sturgeon Bay in 1891 and for a quarter of a century remained a successful merchant of the city, the Wagener drug store being one of the commercial landmarks of this place. He continued to wisely and successfully manage his business until July, 1916, when he sold out. In the meantime Mr. Wagener had been on various occasions called to public office. In 1910 he was elected sheriff of Door county, which position he filled for two years. He was for nine years a member of the city council and in that connection exercised his official prerogatives in support of various plans and measures to promote civic progress in Sturgeon Bay. For four years he was supervisor and for two years occupied the position of highway commissioner. In 1915 he received a recess appointment as postmaster of Sturgeon Bay and



JACOB A. SMITH



was regularly appointed to that position December 16th, since which time he has continuously acted in that capacity. He has always been a democrat in his political views, stanchly supporting the party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise.

On the 5th of December, 1900, Mr. Wagener was married to Miss Jennie Boyce, a daughter of Charles and Kate (Shatoff) Boyce, the former an early settler of Door county. Mr. and Mrs. Wagener have three children, John, Jane and Mary. Fraternally he is connected with the Masons and with the Knights of Pythias and exemplifies in his life the beneficent spirit upon which those orders are based. He has always lived in Sturgeon Bay, so that his life record is a familiar one to his fellow townsmen, and that he enjoys their regard and confidence is indicative of the fact that his has been a well spent career.

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#### HENRY OVERBECK.

Henry Overbeck, a well known representative of horticultural interests at Sturgeon Bay, is, moreover, entitled to mention in this volume by reason of the fact that he installed the instrument and effected the first telephone communication in Door county. He was born in New York, February 2, 1853, and is a son of Henry and Fredericka (Vollmer) Overbeck, both of whom were natives of Germany but came to the United States in early life and were married in New York. The father took up the work of preaching the gospel, entering the Methodist ministry, and in 1853 he removed westward to Lake Mills, Wisconsin, where he resided until 1863. He then went to Oconomowoc, where he continued for three years, and for two years was at Manitowoc. His last days were spent in Algoma, where he departed this life in 1912 at the venerable age of eighty-six years, having for about eight years survived his wife, who died in 1904. In their family were eight children who reached adult age, while three died in childhood.

Henry Overbeck, the eldest of the family, is indebted to the public school system of Algoma for the educational opportunities which he enjoyed. For a year he taught school and then went to work in the lumber woods, driving a yoke of cattle in this connection in Door county in the winter of 1871-2. He was employed in the lumber woods and in shingle mill work for several years but in 1883 changed his line of work by taking charge of the postoffice and telegraph office at Algoma, there remaining until 1885. In that year he came to Sturgeon Bay, where he assumed the management of the telephone and telegraph office. While at Algoma he obtained two telephone instruments, installing one there and the other at Sturgeon Bay, and thus he effected the first telephone communication in Door county. He remained in charge of the telegraph office at Sturgeon Bay until 1905, in which year he removed to Milwaukee, where he conducted an insurance agency for five years. In 1910 he returned to Sturgeon Bay and purchased thirty acres of farming land, of which he planted fifteen acres to cherries and five acres to apples, thus becoming an active factor in the horticultural development of this district. He is now also giving much attention to dairying, in connection with which he purchased a large farm and is now starting a

herd of Guernseys. He has also been in the insurance business at Sturgeon Bay since 1888 and still handles liability and accident insurance, writing a large number of policies each year. In fact, each branch of his business is well organized and carefully conducted and in everything that he undertakes he is actuated by a spirit of progress and improvement productive of splendid results. He has one of the finest homes in the county. He owns his own water and power plant and has a spetic tank for sewage. His home is supplied with all modern improvements and it is attractively furnished, indicating refined and cultured taste.

On the 15th of July, 1885, Mr. Overbeck was united in marriage to Miss Addie L. Morey, who was born in Wyoming, New York, November 14, 1857, a daughter of Reuben and Abbie Clemmons (Bogman) Morey. The father, who was a Baptist minister, was born July 21, 1825, and died May 17, 1880. The Moreys are an old New England family which came from England with Roger Williams, landing from the ship Lion at Boston on the 5th of May, 1631. Mr. and Mrs. Overbeck have a son, Philip Morey, who was born September 24, 1890, and is now in business with his father. He was married August 5, 1913, to Alice Louise Cochems and has one child, Allouise.

Mrs. Overbeck is a member of the Congregational church and Mr. Overbeck and his son hold membership with the Knights of Pythias. The family is one of social prominence in this section and the hospitality of their home is greatly enjoyed by their friends, who are legion. In politics Mr. Overbeck has ever been a stalwart republican and in 1896 was elected to the state legislature, to which he was reelected in 1898 and in 1900, thus serving for three terms, during which he gave careful and earnest consideration to all the vital problems which came up for settlement and lent the weight of his influence to the support of those measures and movements which he deemed of worth to the commonwealth. In his official service he has ever placed the public welfare above partisanship and the interests of the community at large before personal aggrandizement. As a business man he has made for himself a most creditable position and has furthered many lines of activity which have contributed to the upbuilding and development of this section of the state.

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#### OTTO SCHMIDT.

Otto Schmidt, a resident farmer of Forestville township, living on section 2, was born at Piercetown, Kewaunee county, Wisconsin, June 22, 1880, his parents being Fred and Theresa (Seifert) Schmidt, both of whom were natives of Germany. The father left that country when a youth of sixteen years in company with his parents, who crossed the Atlantic and then proceeded westward until they reached Sheboygan, Wisconsin, where a farm was purchased upon which the grandparents of Otto Schmidt spent their remaining days. Fred Schmidt took up the occupation of carpentering in Sheboygan but afterward removed to Piercetown, Kewaunee county, where he purchased a farm and erected thereon a large residence. The place was afterward sold to the county for a poor farm. He later bought another tract of land in the same township and



thereon remained until his death, his widow still occupying the old home place in Piercetown township.

It was upon the home farm that Otto Schmidt was reared with the usual experiences, opportunities and training of the farm bred boy. For eight years he worked upon the farm and on the expiration of that period came to Forestville township, Door county, where he invested in eighty acres of land on section 2 which is now his home. He has steadily improved his place through the intervening years and it is equipped with all the accessories and conveniences of a model farm of the twentieth century. There is an excellent fruit orchard and good buildings, while the latest improved machinery facilitates the work of the fields.

In 1907 Mr. Schmidt was united in marriage to Miss Caroline Busch, a daughter of Julius and Amelia (Denson) Busch, who were natives of Germany, while Mrs. Schmidt was born in Sheboygan, Wisconsin. To Mr. and Mrs. Schmidt have been born five children, namely: Elder, Elvin, Luella, Ruth and Gilbert. A lifelong resident of this state, Otto Schmidt has always been identified with its farming interests and what he has accomplished represents the fit utilization of his innate powers and talents. He has ever concentrated his energies along a given line and success in substantial measure is now his.

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#### JACOB L. WIESNER.

Jacob L. Wiesner, who is engaged in the hardware business in Sawyer, was born in Nasewaupée township, this county, May 16, 1884, a son of George and Any (Sperber) Wiesner, both of whom were natives of Washington county, Wisconsin, where they were reared, educated and married. In 1878 they removed to Door county, where the father took up the occupation of farming, to which he devoted more than three decades. He then retired from active agricultural life and in 1909 removed to Sheboygan, where he now makes his home.

During the period of his boyhood and youth, spent upon the old home farm, Jacob L. Wiesner divided his time between the duties of the schoolroom, the pleasures of the playground and the work of the fields and when he started out in the business world he secured a clerkship with the Scofield Hardware Company of Sturgeon Bay in 1903. He there received thorough training, becoming familiar with every phase of the business, and at length he opened a store on his own account in Sawyer in 1912, now having the second largest store in the city. He carries a well selected line of shelf and heavy hardware and is prepared to meet the demands for almost anything in that line of trade.

In 1907 Mr. Wiesner was joined in wedlock to Miss Alice Stroobants, of Brussels township, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Stroobants, and they have three children, a daughter and two sons, Gertrude, Kenneth and Sydney. Mr. Wiesner belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and he votes with the republican party, to which he has given his support since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. In 1911 he was appointed alderman from the fourth ward and since that time has been twice elected to the position. He has also been a member of the library board for the past eighteen months and his city

finds in him a substantial resident, loyal to all those interests which are a matter of civic virtue and civic pride. In business, too, he has made a creditable record, his course being characterized by steady progress, resulting from his close application and unremitting industry.

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#### GUSTAV LEEGE.

Gustav Leege, who is well known in Door county as a successful farmer of Forestville township, was born in that township on the 8th of February, 1873, a son of Henry and Dorette Leege. He grew to manhood upon the homestead and from early boyhood has been actively connected with agricultural operations, for as soon as he was old and strong enough he began assisting his father. As the years passed he assumed an ever increasing share of responsibility in the operation of the place, which at length came into his possession. His education was that afforded by the early schools of Forestville township. He has never had occasion to regret his choice of an occupation, for he has found farming at once congenial and profitable and has accumulated a competence. His place is highly developed and improved and his well directed labors are rewarded by good crops. From 1909 to 1913 he was secretary and treasurer of the Maplewood Telephone Company and proved a capable official.

On the 28th of May, 1895, Mr. Leege was united in marriage to Miss Mary Wessel and they have two sons, Elmer and Norman. In politics Mr. Leege is a republican and he has taken quite an active part in public affairs, having served in 1906 and 1907 as treasurer of the town of Forestville, while from 1905 to 1907 inclusive he was school clerk. The same enterprise and good judgment which have enabled him to succeed as a farmer made him efficient in the discharge of his official duties and his record in those connections is highly creditable. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Lutheran church and his life has been characterized by close adherence to high moral standards. He has a wide acquaintance throughout the county and has gained and held the warm friendship of many.

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#### JOHN BOLER.

John Boler, whose name is well known in financial circles in Sturgeon Bay, became cashier of the Door County Bank in 1915. He was born in Norway, January 13, 1873, and spent the first fourteen years of his life in the land of the midnight sun. He then crossed the Atlantic to the new world and made his way at once into the interior of the country, becoming a resident of Atlantic, Iowa, where he resided for seven years. During that period he supplemented his early education, acquired in the schools of his native land, by attendance at the high school. Later he spent a year in Chicago and afterward went to Iowa City, Iowa, where he became a student in the State University, from which he was graduated in 1901 with the degree of Bachelor of Philosophy. After

receiving his diploma he made his way to the southwest and at Bisbee, Arizona, was connected with the Copper Queen Consolidated Mining Company, occupying the positions of paymaster and stenographer. He then became private secretary to Walter Douglas, general manager of the Phelps-Dodge Company, western office at Bisbee, Arizona. He continued with the company for eleven years, occupying various positions of responsibility and trust. Anxious, however, to engage in business on his own account, he purchased a twenty-acre fruit farm in Door county, Wisconsin, in 1912 and took up his abode in Sturgeon Bay. His attention and energy were then given to the further development and improvement of that place until 1914, when he became assistant cashier of the Door County Bank, and his capability in that connection led to his promotion to the cashiership in 1915.

On the 10th of September, 1903, Mr. Boler was married to Miss Ophelia Larson, of Valders, Wisconsin, and they have one child, Eugene, now twelve years of age. Politically Mr. Boler is a republican but has never been an office seeker. He and his wife attend the Norwegian Lutheran church. They have gained a large circle of friends and the hospitality of the best homes is freely accorded them. Mr. Boler deserves much credit for what he has accomplished along business lines, as he started out for himself without financial assistance from family or friends and has since worked his way upward by his capability and devotion to duty.

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#### JOSEPH RIEDER.

Joseph Rieder, who is engaged in general farming on section 31, Naseaupee township, has long been identified with agricultural interests in this locality. In fact he was born on the old home place where he now resides, his natal day being March 14, 1885. He is a son of Michael and Mary Rieder, of Manitowoc county, who came to Door county in the early '70s. They had a family of five children: Kate, who is now the wife of Pete Rapel, of Antigo, Wisconsin; Joseph, of this review; Mary, who is the wife of John Manlick, living at Auburndale, Wisconsin; Frank, whose home is in Manitowoc county; and Bertha, the wife of Ed Stoutinger, of Manitowoc. On coming to this county the father purchased eighty acres of land which was covered with the natural growth of forest trees. This he at once began to clear with the assistance of his sons and year by year he carefully developed and improved his farm, remaining thereon until 1906, when he removed to Manitowoc and his son Joseph assumed the management and control of the old homestead.

In the usual manner of farm lads Joseph Rieder spent the days of his boyhood and youth, dividing his time between the duties of the schoolroom, the pleasures of the playground and the work of the fields. He continued to assist his father in the development of the old home place until the father went to Manitowoc, when he assumed control and has since carried on general farming with excellent success. His prosperity is shown in the fact that he has been able to add sixty acres to the old home place and he now has an excellent farm, his fields being in a high state of cultivation, while all the improvements, equip-

ments and accessories of a model farm property of the twentieth century are found upon his place. He makes a specialty of dairying and he is also a stockholder and the treasurer of the cheese factory in Nasewaupée township, which position he has occupied for the past seven years.

On November 18, 1907, Mr. Rieder was united in marriage to Miss Annie Reimer, of Manitowoc, and they have four children: Agnes, Clemens, Lena and Paul. Mr. Rieder votes independently, considering the capability of the candidate rather than his party ties. His fellow townsmen, recognizing his personal worth, have called him to office and for six years he served as treasurer of school district No. 7 and for four years was pathmaster. His religious faith is that of the Catholic church, his membership being with the Maplewood parish. He is widely and favorably known in this county, where his entire life has been passed and where he has so directed his efforts as to win the confidence, goodwill and warm regard of all with whom he has been associated.

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#### WILLIAM MOORE.

William Moore, a resident farmer of Union township, whose industry and perseverance have brought him a substantial measure of success, has been identified with the pioneer development of three states—Wisconsin, Minnesota and Oregon. He was born in Chicago in 1859 and at that time there was little indication that the city would attain its present metropolitan proportions. His parents were Maurice and Bridget (Riley) Moore, both of whom were natives of County Kerry, Ireland. The former left the Emerald isle when a young man and crossed the Atlantic, becoming a resident of Black Rock, New York. Three years later he removed westward to Chicago and for three years was employed in a packing house of that city for already that industry had received its initial impetus in the city which was to profit so largely thereby. In the winter of 1857 he took up his abode upon the farm now occupied by his son William, securing a tract of government land, his deed being signed by President Buchanan. The place comprised one hundred and twenty acres of wild timber land and in the midst of the dense forest he built a log cabin which he occupied until 1863, when he removed with his family to De Pere, Wisconsin. Later, however, he returned to the old home farm and began clearing the land, hauling off the timber and bringing the place under the plow. His remaining days were spent thereon, his death occurring in 1903, when he was seventy-nine years of age, while his wife died at the age of fifty-two years.

William Moore spent his boyhood days on the old home farm and in De Pere, Wisconsin, and his educational opportunities were those afforded by the district school near his father's place. At the age of twenty-two years he left the parental roof and on the Wisconsin river proceeded to the site of Rhinelander, Wisconsin, although the town had not been established at that time. He afterward removed to Hurley, Wisconsin. He next went to Grand Rapids, Minnesota, where he took up a timber claim and a homestead, devoting ten years to the improvement of his property. The succeeding three years were spent on the old homestead after which he heard and heeded the call of the west and was engaged in esti-



MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM MOORE



inating timber in Oregon. When he again came to Wisconsin he took up his permanent abode upon this place and since 1903 has made it his home.

It was in October, 1902, that Mr. Moore was united in marriage to Miss Anna Fitzgerald, a daughter of John and Margaret (Dooley) Fitzgerald, who were natives of Ireland and were among the early settlers of this state, their daughter having been born in De Pere. Such in brief is the life history of Mr. Moore, to whom every phase of pioneer existence is familiar. His life in the north woods in an early day was full of hardships and there was much arduous labor attached to the development of his claim. He has never been afraid of earnest, unremitting labor, however, and, overcoming difficulties and obstacles in his path by persistent purpose, he has worked his way steadily upward to success.

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### JOSEPH J. HOSLETT.

Joseph J. Hoslett is a partner in the firm of Peterson & Hoslett, general merchants at Sawyer, and aside from his business connections he is prominently known as a factor in official circles, having for the past twelve years served as a member of the county board of supervisors. He is a native of Door county, his birth having occurred in Clay Banks township, January 21, 1867. His parents, John B. and Mary (Madosh) Hoslett, were both natives of Belgium. The father, who was born in 1842, was a son of John B. Hoslett, who brought his family to the United States and settled in Door county in 1850. He afterward established his home in Kewaunee county, where he purchased wild land, which he cleared and transformed into a productive farm. The maternal grandfather of Joseph J. Hoslett was John Madosh, who came to the new world about the same time as the Hoslett family, and he, too, made his home in Kewaunee county. It was in that county that John B. Hoslett and Mary Madosh were reared and married and in 1863 they removed to Door county, settling on a tract of wild and unimproved land in Clay Banks township. With characteristic energy the father began to develop the place. He still resides thereon but is living retired, leaving the active work of the farm to others.

Joseph J. Hoslett obtained a public school education and attended the normal school at Valparaiso, Indiana, two winters, taking a commercial course. He received practical training in the work of the fields, assisting in the tasks of plowing, planting and harvesting through the summer months. He did not desire to engage in farming, however, as a life work and on attaining his majority he directed his efforts into commercial channels by entering the employ of G. W. Noble, a dealer in farm implements in Sturgeon Bay. He afterward purchased an interest in the J. C. Dana Company at Sawyer and in 1902 he bought the interest of Mr. Anderson in the firm of E. N. Anderson & Company, proprietors of a general store. At that time the firm name was changed to Peterson & Hoslett. The junior partner has full charge of the store and the business is a growing one.

Mr. Hoslett was married January 1, 1893, at Sawyer, to Miss Hansina A. Anderson, a daughter of Erik N. and Marie Anderson. Her maternal grandparents came to the United States from Norway in 1843 and located in Chicago, Illinois, whence in 1847 they removed to Manitowoc, which was then a mere frontier trading point. Her father came to the United States from Norway in

1855 and took up his residence in Manitowoc, where the family resided until 1880, when they came to Door county. To Mr. and Mrs. Hoslett have been born the following children: Marie A., who is teaching music at Scandinavia Academy at Scandinavia, Wisconsin; Emil J., who is assisting his father in the store and who resides at home; Eunice M. and Sherman A., both of whom are attending the public schools of Sawyer; and Norman W., who died July 6, 1910, at the age of four and a half years.

Mr. Hoslett is a staunch republican and has been called to office, having served as alderman for several years, as supervisor for a considerable period and as chairman of the county board for some time, which position he is now filling. He is also a member of the executive committee of the county council of defense. Further evidence of his interest in the general welfare is found in the fact that he is a member of the Sturgeon Bay Commercial Club and gives his hearty support to the various projects of that organization. In religious faith he is a Lutheran. Sawyer has profited from his enterprise and good judgment along a number of lines of activity and he is acknowledged to be one of its leading citizens.

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#### HENRY L. GERLACH.

Among the progressive and energetic farmers who are contributing to the agricultural development of Sevastopol township is Henry L. Gerlach, who owns an excellent farm on section 25. A native of Wisconsin, he was born in Herman township, Sheboygan county, January 8, 1882, and is a son of Christian and Louisa (Hartman) Gerlach, both of whom were born in Germany. The mother, however, came to the United States when six years old with her parents, who resided in Wilson township, Sheboygan county, Wisconsin, until married and then removed to Herman township. There the father engaged in farming and won a substantial competence. Christian Gerlach was educated in Germany and remained there until he was twenty-two years old, when he came alone to the United States. He also made his way to Sheboygan county, Wisconsin, and established one of the first blacksmith shops in Herman township. Both he and his wife passed away in that township and were there buried. To them were born six children, namely: Herman, who died in Milwaukee in 1909; August, a resident of Appleton, Wisconsin; Albert, who passed away in Milwaukee in 1917; Otto, who is a resident of Milwaukee; Henry L., of this review; and one who died in infancy.

Henry L. Gerlach received his early education in the district schools, which he attended until he was fourteen years old, and then entered the Mission House Academy, near Franklin, Wisconsin, where he took a two years' course. Upon leaving that institution he secured work as a cheese maker in Sheboygan and was so occupied until 1900, when he entered the State University of Wisconsin at Madison, which in 1902 granted him a certificate showing that he had completed the course in the Dairy School. For about ten years he was employed as a cheese maker by L. M. Washburn, of Sevastopol township, and in 1911 he purchased the cheese factory. The following year he built the cheese factory at the institute and operated both factories until 1913, when he sold them and bought the



south half of the southeast quarter of section 25 and two hundred and forty-eight acres on section 31, Sevastopol township. He now gives his undivided attention to the management of his extensive farm holdings and has manifested the same progressiveness, sound judgment and business insight that characterized him in the direction of the affairs of the cheese factory. His farms are excellently improved and the work of cultivating the fields and caring for the stock is facilitated by substantial buildings and thoroughly modern equipment.

Mr. Gerlach was married February 8, 1906, to Miss Louisa Bartel, a daughter of William and Margaret Bartel, early pioneers of Sevastopol township. The father died in 1915 and is buried in the Bayside cemetery. The mother survives and makes her home with Mr. and Mrs. Gerlach. The Bartel homestead, which comprises the south half of the southeast quarter of section 25, was wild land when it came into possession of Mr. Bartel but in the course of years he transformed it into a highly cultivated and well improved farm and it is now owned by our subject. To Mr. and Mrs. Gerlach has been born a son, George Christian, whose natal day was January 10, 1910.

Mr. Gerlach gives his political allegiance to the republican party and for the past three years has served as township clerk, making a highly creditable record in that capacity. He is identified with the Loyal Order of Moose and in religious faith is a Lutheran. Although he began his independent career empty handed he is now financially independent, which indicates that industry and the ability to recognize and take advantage of opportunities constitute a sufficient foundation for success.

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#### FREDERICK P. BUSHMAN.

Frederick P. Bushman, a well known miller of Sturgeon Bay, is a native of Door county, his birth occurring in Sturgeon Bay township on the 13th of June, 1874. His parents, Frederick and Margaret Bushman, were both born in Germany but came to America at an early day. The father, who was a farmer by occupation, cleared a tract of wild land in Door county and began the improvement of his place, continuing to carry on agricultural pursuits until his death. He was drowned in Sturgeon Bay in 1879. His widow remained on the home farm, which she operated with the assistance of her children, and passed away here January 1, 1911. In the family were six children, five of whom are still living.

During his boyhood Frederick P. Bushman attended the public schools but at the early age of thirteen years began his business career, being first employed at making shingles for the firm of A. Shaw & Company, with whom he remained for several years. After working for two years he was transferred to the grist-mill belonging to Mr. Shaw and was made manager of the same in 1897. A few years later the property was sold to L. M. Washburn but Mr. Bushman was retained as manager and still continues in that position, which he has now so efficiently filled for twenty years. The mill has a capacity of seventy-five barrels of white flour per day.

Mr. Bushman was married in 1901 to Miss Elizabeth D. Dickinson of Nase-

waupee, Wisconsin, a daughter of Charles and Libby (Marshall) Dickinson. They have no children of their own but a niece, Helen Marie Dickinson, aged eight years, is living with them. Mrs. Bushman attends the Methodist church and is a most estimable lady. In politics Mr. Bushman is a republican, and is identified with the Equitable Fraternal Union, the National Fraternal League and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is well and favorably known throughout his native county and has a host of warm friends in Sturgeon Bay.

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REV. HENRY N. PFEIFER.

Rev. Henry N. Pfeifer, pastor of Corpus Christi Catholic church at Sawyer, was born on the 5th of July, 1881, in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, and is a son of Henry and Caroline (Henze) Pfeifer, who came to this country from Germany. The father was born in the Rhine province of Bavaria in June, 1843, and was there reared and educated but in 1861 crossed the Atlantic to the United States and located in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, where he was engaged in railroad work. He died in 1883 and his wife passed away in 1891. They were the parents of four children, namely: Johanna, who is now the wife of Jacob Ries of Oshkosh; Anton and Elizabeth, both deceased; and Henry N., of this review.

Father Pfeifer grew to manhood in his native city and was educated for the priesthood. After graduating from St. Vincent De Paul school in Oshkosh, he entered St. Francis Seminary in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, from which he was graduated in 1905. After his ordination he was appointed assistant pastor of St. Boniface Catholic church at Manitowoc, where he remained from 1905 to 1908, and was then transferred to Sawyer as pastor of Corpus Christi church, of which he has since been in charge.

Corpus Christi Catholic church was organized in 1904 with about forty-six families in the parish and a building was erected at a cost of nine thousand dollars to be used both as a parsonage and church. The first pastor was Rev. Frank Peters, who was in charge for three years, and was followed by Rev. C. Hugo, who remained for one year. Since then Father Pfeifer has been pastor and has done an excellent work. The congregation now numbers one hundred and eighteen families or four hundred and eighty-five souls, and a parochial school has been established with eight grades under two teachers and with seventy pupils in attendance. Father Pfeifer has labored untiringly for the interests of his church and is held in the highest esteem by all who know him whether Catholics or Protestants.

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JOSEPH DACHELET.

Joseph Dachelet, a progressive and well known farmer of Brussels township, has passed his entire life in that township, his birth there occurring February 23, 1873. His parents, Tusseon and Philomena (Bephy) Dachelet, were both born in Belgium. In young manhood the father emigrated to the United States

and for a short time resided at Green Bay, Wisconsin. He then came to Brussels township, Door county, and purchased forty acres of land, to which he subsequently added another forty acre tract. He at once set to work to bring his land under cultivation, clearing it of timber. His first home was a log house but this in time gave place to a more modern residence. He devoted his life to the cultivation and improvement of his farm and died there in 1909. He had survived his wife for many years, as she was called to her final rest in 1887.

Joseph Dachelet spent the period of his boyhood and youth upon the home farm in Brussels township and was of great assistance to his father in the operation of the place. His educational opportunities were those afforded by the district schools, but the training which he received in agriculture was highly valuable as a preparation for his life work. In 1892 he purchased his present farm of one hundred and twenty acres, which at that time was heavily timbered. The land is now all under cultivation and has been improved, so that his farm is an up-to-date and valuable property. The buildings are new, substantial and well adapted to their purposes, and he ranks among the substantial men of the township.

In 1894 Mr. Dachelet was united in marriage to Miss Mary Mathy, who was born in Belgium and was brought by her parents, Charles and Annie (Aundree) Mathy, to the United States. After residing for a time in Union township, Door county, removal was made to Brussels township, where her father turned his attention to farming. To Mr. and Mrs. Dachelet have been born six children, as follows: Henry, Alice, John, Lucy, Louis and Floremena.

Mr. Dachelet is a republican in politics but has confined his activity in public affairs to casting his ballot. He has concentrated his efforts upon farming and his labors have been rewarded by the accumulation of a competence. His personal qualities are such as invariably win respect, and he has a host of friends not only in Brussels township but throughout the county.

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#### ERNEST W. LONG.

Almost from the earliest period of development at Sturgeon Bay the name of Long has been associated with the growth and progress of the city. Ernest W. Long is a representative of the family in the third generation, and is connected not only with the business interests but also with activities contributing to the intellectual and moral progress of the community. He was here born on the 7th of April, 1872, his parents being Frank and Agnes M. Long, mentioned at length elsewhere in this work. The public schools afforded him his educational opportunities. He passed through consecutive grades to the high school and when his textbooks were put aside entered the office of the Sturgeon Bay Advocate, of which his father was editor and proprietor. He was trained in all of the work of the office and ultimately was given charge of the mechanical end of the business. The Advocate has for many years been the expression of the business ability and journalistic genius of the Long family.

On the 13th of September, 1893, Ernest W. Long was united in marriage to Miss Laura Seidemann, a daughter of Hugo and Louise (Kestner) Seidemann.

who became residents of Door county when the work of development and progress seemed scarcely begun within its borders. The father was a brewer by trade and owned one of the first breweries in this section. Later he turned his attention to the hotel business, conducting the Sturgeon Bay House, and subsequently he took up the occupation of farming. He next removed elsewhere and his last days were spent in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, where he passed away in 1903 at the age of sixty-five. His widow, however, still survives at the age of seventy-two years. Mr. and Mrs. Long have two children: Wesley, twenty-two years of age, who is with the Wisconsin Telephone Company at Omro, Wisconsin; and David, at home.

Mr. Long exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the republican party, but at local elections where no issue is involved casts an independent ballot. Fraternally he is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America, having become a charter member of the camp at Sturgeon Bay. His religious faith is evidenced in his membership in the Moravian church, in the work of which he takes a most active and helpful part, having now served as superintendent of its Sunday school for more than fifteen years. He is also a member of the library board and is interested in all those forces which work for the intellectual and moral uplift of the community.

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#### GUSTAV TANCK.

Gustav Tanck, living on section 36, Egg Harbor township, where he carries on general farming and dairying, was born in Germany, December 15, 1863, and is a son of Herman and Bertha (Thoebe) Tanck, who were natives of Germany and in 1868 crossed the Atlantic to the United States, settling in Milwaukee, where they lived for six months. They afterward went to Washington county, Wisconsin, and the father, who was a carpenter and joiner, there worked at his trade until April, 1881, when he removed to Door county and purchased the place upon which his son Gustav now resides. He was not long permitted to enjoy his new home, however, for on the 14th of February, 1883, he passed away. His widow survived for more than seventeen years, her death occurring in August, 1900.

Gustav Tanck was largely reared and educated in Washington county, Wisconsin. At his father's death the responsibility of supporting the family devolved upon him, as he was the eldest son. Later he purchased the old home place, buying out the interests of the other heirs in the property, and he now has one hundred and sixty acres situated on section 36, Egg Harbor township. The original farm owned by his father comprised but forty acres. Mr. Tanck has cleared the greater part of his land and has brought it to a high state of cultivation, working a marked transformation in the appearance of the place, which is now one of the productive farms of the township. He bends his energies to its development and improvement and everything about the farm indicates his careful supervision and progressive methods. He is also engaged in the dairy business, milking eleven cows, and he is the present rural mail carrier, in which

position he has served for thirteen years. He has a twenty-six mile route out of the village of Egg Harbor.

On the 17th of February, 1900, Mr. Tanck was united in marriage to Miss Mary Kuehn and they have become the parents of eight children, namely: John; Charles; Martha; Emma; Laura, deceased; August; Clarence; and Roland.

Mr. Tanck is a member of the Lutheran church and his political endorsement is given to the democratic party, which recognizes in him one of its active local workers. He has served as assessor of Egg Harbor township for five years, as town clerk for five years and was justice of the peace for six years, in which position he rendered decisions that were strictly fair and impartial. He has always been loyal to the interests and trust reposed in him and has worked untiringly for the welfare and upbuilding of the community in which he resides.

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#### MYRON E. LAWRENCE.

The summer resort business has claimed the attention of Myron E. Lawrence since 1901 and he now has hotel and cottage accommodations for over two hundred people, being proprietor of what is known as The Cove at Sturgeon Bay. He was born in that city on the 6th of July, 1858, and is a son of William B. and Augusta (Brooks) Lawrence, the former a native of New Hampshire and the latter of Calais, Maine. During his boyhood the father accompanied his parents on their removal to the Pine Tree state, where he made his home until coming to Wisconsin in 1850. He located on Washington island in Door county, where for some time he engaged in fishing as a means of livelihood, but later became proprietor of the Cedar Street House at Sturgeon Bay, which he conducted for a few years. He was subsequently engaged in the meat business for about ten years but in later life followed farming until his death, which occurred in 1913. His widow is still living.

Myron E. Lawrence is indebted to the public schools of Sturgeon Bay for the early educational privileges he enjoyed and after leaving school engaged in the meat business with his father. At the age of twenty-one he purchased his father's interest in the business and continued to conduct the market until 1898, though he owned it a few years longer. In 1901 he purchased property on Sturgeon Bay and opened a summer resort. The following year he built a hotel with accommodations for thirty people and has since erected a number of cottages, so that he can now accommodate over two hundred people. His place is up-to-date in its appointments, being lighted by electric lights from a private plant, and there is also a dance hall and good boating and fishing facilities are furnished the guests. Mr. Lawrence also owns one hundred and six acres of land, thirty of which have been set out in fruit and most of the remainder devoted to garden products, so that he can supply his own tables with fresh fruits and vegetables of all kinds in season.

On the 1st of April, 1881, Mr. Lawrence married Miss Josephine Coffeen, of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, a daughter of Louis Coffeen. The children born of this union are Dudley, now proprietor of the Lawrence meat market at Sturgeon

Bay; and Minnie, the wife of I. E. Schilling, of Miami, Florida. Fraternally Mr. Lawrence is identified with the Masonic order, and politically he affiliates with the republican party. As proprietor of The Cove he has proved a most genial and popular host and wherever known he is held in the highest esteem.

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#### ARTHUR L. HATCH.

Arthur L. Hatch, deceased, was one of the best known horticulturists of Wisconsin and one of the first three men in the state to receive recognition from the State University for services rendered in the development of horticultural and agricultural interests here. He well merited the honors which were conferred upon him, as his life was one of great usefulness and constituted a contributing factor to that progress of which Wisconsin has every reason to be proud.

Mr. Hatch was born in Sherburne, Chenango county, New York, March 25, 1846, and his life record spanned the intervening years to the 19th of February, 1916. His parents were W. A. and Amanda (Stewart) Hatch. In the maternal line he was a great-grandson of Oliver Stewart, a Revolutionary war soldier. His father was a blacksmith by trade and after spending a goodly portion of his married life in the Empire state he brought his family to Wisconsin in 1856, settling at Lloyd, Richland county, where he engaged in blacksmithing and also cleared up a farm. There he resided until his death, which occurred when he had reached the very venerable age of ninety-four years.

Arthur L. Hatch was a little lad of ten summers at the time of the removal to this state and he attended the public schools of Lloyd, the high school of Richland Center, Wisconsin, and the schools of Sextonville, this state. He afterward took up the profession of teaching, which he followed for a few years, and in 1871 he turned his attention to the nursery business at Ithaca, Wisconsin, in connection with S. I. Freeborn. He remained in that business for about twenty years and also owned a large fruit farm there, which he cultivated for a few years after disposing of his nursery business.

Mr. Hatch came to Door county in 1891 to investigate the possibilities for fruit growing in this district and the following year he purchased a tract of land in Sevastopol township in connection with Professor E. S. Goff, of Madison. Upon this land he planted the first cherry trees in Door county and proved that this industry could be profitably carried on here in a commercial way. As a result of his labors and influence there are thousands of acres of cherry orchards now in Door county. In 1893 his son-in-law, D. E. Bingham, took up his abode upon the place and began its development, which was continued under the supervision of Mr. Hatch. The latter in 1898 sold his home in Richland county to Professor Goff and purchased the latter's interest in the farm in Door county, to which he removed. Mr. Hatch had long been a close student of questions relating to Wisconsin's development as a horticultural state and came to be recognized as an authority upon fruit raising in Wisconsin. He successfully instituted many experiments and, basing his work upon scientific knowledge, experience and sound judgment, these were attended with success. He was one of the first three men in Wisconsin to win recognition from the State University, a recognition



ARTHUR L. HATCH





that was similar to the degree of LL. D. when conferred by colleges upon men eminent in public life. He was very active in instruction work for the State University and was again and again called upon to address public meetings upon questions in which he was deeply interested. He made a scientific study of the soil and climatic conditions and of the best methods of producing fruit and other crops in this state, being thus able to give expert opinion upon such questions.

On the 26th of January, 1873, Mr. Hatch was married to Miss Clara E. Taplin, a native of Canada and a daughter of R. G. and Evaline (Cilley) Taplin. Their children are Musa, the wife of D. E. Bingham, of Door county, by whom she has two children, Gail and Murray; Bernice, the wife of F. M. McCullough, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; and Eva, the wife of H. W. Ullsperger, of Door county.

Mr. Hatch gave his political endorsement to the republican party, but was never ambitious to hold office. He was president of the Door County Park and Driveway Association and he was interested in all phases of public life affecting the general welfare of city, county and state. He was ever a man of action rather than of theory. His opinions were never hastily given, but were the outcome of careful consideration and as a horticulturist his contribution to the world's work was indeed valuable.

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#### ALONZO S. PUTMAN.

Death removed an active business man of Sturgeon Bay when Alonzo S. Putman was called to his final rest on the 22d of May, 1917. He was proprietor of a livery stable and was one of the best known men of Door county, where practically his entire life was passed. He was born, however, in Aurora, Illinois, on the 5th of February, 1864, but was only four years old when first brought to this county by his parents, John and Sarah (Weed) Putman, the family locating at Baileys Harbor in 1870 but removing to Sturgeon Bay in the spring of 1871. For one year the father rented a farm near the city and engaged in its operation but at the end of that time returned to Aurora, Illinois. In 1875, however, we again find him in Door county and after spending the winter in Sawyer he located on a farm in Sturgeon Bay township, where he continued to make his home until called to his final rest. His widow is still living.

During his boyhood Alonzo S. Putman attended the public school in the acquirement of an education but at an early age began earning his own livelihood as a newsboy in Aurora, Illinois. When a young man he worked in the lumber woods during the winter months and also helped build the Sturgeon Bay canal. For eleven years he was employed in the nursery of George Pinney in Door county and in 1892 took the contract for carrying the mail to Sister Bay. In 1897 he opened a livery stable in Sturgeon Bay, known as the Vendome Barn, but this was destroyed by fire two years later and for the following two years he engaged in teaming. He then resumed the livery business, which he carried on with marked success up to the time of his demise. He had the first automobile bus in the county, carrying passengers north of Sturgeon Bay, and later he operated one seven passenger Buick, two passenger trucks and two freight trucks. Before the

railroad was built he operated a stage line across Green Bay to Marinette during the winter time for twenty-three years and often had the misfortune to break through the ice on these trips for it required either four or six horse teams and was a very hazardous undertaking. He ran an excellent stage service all over the northern part of the county, making trips as regular as any train service, and to the time of his death he still carried the mail throughout that locality both winter and summer though he used horses during the cold season. During the summer months he carried thousands of tourists to the resorts of this region and in that way became both widely and favorably known, being especially popular with the traveling public.

In 1887 Mr. Putman was united in marriage to Miss Lucretia Johnson, a native of Canada and a daughter of Robert and Mary Johnson, pioneers of Sturgeon Bay, and to this union were born five children, namely: Herbert, who is now agent for the Overland automobiles at Columbus, Ohio; Darewood, deceased; Phylis, Alger and Robert, all at home.

Fraternally Mr. Putman was affiliated with the Equitable Fraternal Union and the Eagles, and politically he was identified with the republican party. Coming here at an early day he witnessed almost the entire development of Door county. He saw the forests disappear before the woodman's ax, the land transformed into cultivable fields and towns and villages spring up. His business brought him in contact with a large number of people who held him in the highest esteem. Since his demise his family have disposed of the livery business. He is yet held in kindly remembrance by the many friends whom he left behind.

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#### LOUIS PRUETER.

Louis Prueter is proprietor of a sawmill at Baileys Harbor and also is owner of an excellent farm of two hundred acres near the town. He was born in Germany on the 15th of October, 1859, and is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Prueter, who were also natives of that country, where the mother passed away. In 1867 the father came to the United States on a sailing vessel and made his way to Manitowoc county, Wisconsin, where his death occurred.

Louis Prueter was a little lad of eight years at the time of the emigration of the family to the United States. His boyhood, therefore, was largely passed in Manitowoc county, where he acquired his education as a public school student. He remained at home until he reached his majority and through the summer months actively assisted in the work of the farm, thus early becoming familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops. On attaining his majority he removed to Washington island for a time was employed by the Frieberg Lumber Company. Later he took up his abode at Baileys Harbor and worked in the woods near here, getting out posts and ties. He carefully saved his earnings while thus employed until his economy and his industry had brought him sufficient capital to enable him to engage in business on his own account. He then joined Mr. Tousland in the purchase of a sawmill, which they operated together for a number of years, at the end of which time Mr. Prueter purchased the interest of his partner and is now sole owner of the business. He still operates

his sawmill and is conducting a good business in the manufacture of lumber. While thus engaged he also made investment in two hundred acres of farm land near Baileys Harbor, which he cleared and has transformed into an excellent farm property. He has added many modern improvements thereto and from his farm now derives a very gratifying and substantial annual income.

In 1888 Mr. Prueter was united in marriage to Miss Hattie Oldenburg, a daughter of John and Gusta (Graff) Oldenburg. She was born in Milwaukee, while her parents were natives of Germany and in early life removed to Milwaukee, where they spent two years. They afterward became residents of Baileys Harbor township, Door county, where Mr. Oldenburg purchased a farm, which he cultivated for a considerable period or until death called him to his final rest. His widow still survives. To Mr. and Mrs. Prueter have been born three children, Carl, Sophia and Arnold. The family is widely and favorably known in Baileys Harbor and this locality and warm-hearted hospitality is freely accorded them. Mr. Prueter is recognized as a progressive and enterprising business man whose labors have always been intelligently directed and whose energy has been unflinching.

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#### JULE F. HERLACHE.

Jule F. Herlache is a representative of one of the pioneer families of Door county, represented here from the period of earliest development. The family was here founded by his grandparents, who in the year 1856 crossed the Atlantic from Belgium and made their way to Wisconsin. The grandfather secured forty acres of wild land in Door county, to which he kept adding from time to time until his possessions aggregated four hundred and forty acres. He thus won a well merited position among the substantial agriculturists of this section of the state. His son, Clem Herlache, was a lad of eight years when he accompanied his parents to the new world, his birth having occurred in Belgium in 1848. After arriving at man's estate he was united in marriage to Miss Delphine Gigot, of Belgium, and they became the parents of seven children: Sedona, who is the wife of Jule Bossman; Henry; Isadore; Ernest; Philiste, who died and was buried in Gardner township; Lucy; and Jule F., of this review. Always interested in public welfare, Clem Herlache and his father assisted in organizing the local school district and he served as treasurer of the district for some time. The religious faith of the family is that of the Catholic church.

Jule F. Herlache, whose name introduces this review, spent his boyhood and youth upon the home farm and at the usual age began his education as a public school pupil. He pursued his studies during the winter months and in the summer seasons worked in the fields, thus gaining the practical experience which enabled him to take up farming on his own account after he had attained his majority. He located upon his present place of residence on section 30, Gardner township, in 1902. Here he has a large and splendidly built dairy barn and he keeps high grade Holstein cattle. He is also engaged in the raising of Percheron horses and has a thoroughbred sire. His place comprises one hundred and seventy-nine acres of rich and productive land and the equipments upon his farm

make it one of the valuable properties of his section of the county. In addition to managing and operating his home place he is stockholder in the cheese factory.

On the 15th of June, 1909, Mr. Herlache was united in marriage to Miss Rosa Delfosse, of Brussels, and they have become parents of two children: Kermit, born January 28, 1910; and Melton, born January 9, 1913. In his political views Mr. Herlache is a republican and for the past two years he has filled the office of supervisor. He has also been school director of district No. 5 for three years and the cause of education finds in him a stalwart champion. He was born May 5, 1891, on the old home place in Gardner township and here he has spent his entire life, covering twenty-six years. He is one of the progressive and enterprising young farmers and business men of his district and the progress that he has already made is an indication of what he will accomplish in the future.

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#### NOEL J. DELFOSSE.

Noel J. Delfosse, proprietor of the Pleasant Vale Cheese factory, and a well known merchant of Brussels township, his home being on section 3, was born in Union township, Door county, May 19, 1892, a son of Noel and Julia (Hoddy) Delfosse, natives of Horbey, Belgium. The father spent his early boyhood in that country but in 1853 crossed the Atlantic in a sailing vessel, making his way to Philadelphia. He afterward traveled westward to Chicago, and later came to Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin, taking up his abode in Gardner township, Door county. On these various removals he had accompanied his parents and the grandfather purchased a tract of timber land, which he at once began to clear and develop. Upon that place he built a log house and immediately took up the arduous task of improving the farm. Eventually he sold that property and bought land in Union township, becoming owner of a tract of eighty acres, to which he added from time to time as his financial resources increased until he had two hundred acres. He continued to reside upon the old homestead until his death, which occurred when he was fifty-three years of age, and his widow also died on the old home farm.

Noel Delfosse, Sr., spent a considerable portion of his boyhood in Union township, and pursued his education in the district schools. Eventually the farm was divided among four brothers of the family, Louis, August, Eugene and Noel. The last named added to his share until he was the owner of one hundred and sixty acres, which he converted into a rich, productive and valuable farm, in the midst of which he erected a nice residence. His attention was always given to general agricultural pursuits to the time of his demise, which occurred in 1914, when he had reached the age of sixty-nine years and nine days. His widow is still living upon the old homestead and is now sixty-one years of age. She left her native country when a young lady and became a resident of Union township, Door county, Wisconsin, being a resident there when she gave her hand in marriage to Noel Delfosse. They were ever regarded as a most worthy and highly respected couple and the father was prominent in public affairs, serving as chairman of the township board of Union for thirty-six years.

Noel J. Delfosse pursued his education in the district schools near the old home farm, upon which he was reared. He continued to assist in its cultivation and improvement until he attained his majority, when he obtained employment in a flour mill of the Pierre & Virlee Company, continuing in that connection for a year and a half. He then purchased the cheese factory and store of his present place and has since conducted business along those lines. He carries a good line of general merchandise and he has a well equipped cheese factory, manufacturing his product according to modern processes and finding therefor a ready sale.

On April 27, 1910, Mr. Delfosse was united in marriage to Miss Laura Befay, a daughter of Dennis and Sylvia (Lampereur) Befay, who were natives of Belgium but became early settlers of Wisconsin, their marriage being celebrated at Green Bay, where their daughter, Mrs. Delfosse, was born. By her marriage she has become the mother of four children, Roland, Dorothy, Naomi and Violet, but the last named died at the age of seven months.

Noel J. Delfosse has been a lifelong resident of Door county and has witnessed many changes here as the work of progress and improvement has been carried steadily forward. He is now but twenty-five years of age but already has made a most creditable position in the business circles of his community and is conducting interests which promise further success for the future.

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#### B. J. ERSKINE.

B. J. Erskine is now living retired in Jacksonport, but for many years was an active factor in agricultural and industrial circles and through persistent and well directed energy won the success that enables him to rest from further labor at the age of seventy-six years. He was born in Rockland, Lincoln county, Maine, June 3, 1841, a son of Abail and Lucinda (Borneman) Erskine, who were also natives of the Pine Tree state and representatives of old New England families of German descent. The father was a carpenter and cabinetmaker, following those pursuits in Maine and California and lastly in Boston, where both he and his wife passed away and were laid to rest. They had a family of nine children: Ellen, now deceased; Lucinda; B. J.; Royal, who is living in Seattle, Washington; Lincoln, who is postmaster of Jacksonport, Wisconsin; Mary, residing in the east; Roswell and Cora who have passed away; and Clara, also in the east.

B. J. Erskine acquired a common school education, pursuing his studies to the age of fourteen, after which he devoted five years to work upon a farm, being thus employed until he reached the age of nineteen. He also sailed to some extent and was employed in shipyards until he attained his majority. He then responded to the country's call for troops, enlisting in the coast guard battalion as a member of Company B of the Maine Volunteers, doing garrison and post duty until the close of the war. He then returned home and was employed in different occupations until 1867, when he went to New Orleans and thence proceeded up the Mississippi river to St. Louis, Missouri, from which point he continued his journey to Chicago. While in that city in 1868 he saw an advertisement in a newspaper for lumbermen in Door county, Wisconsin. By steamer

he made his way to Baileys Harbor, where he secured employment at loading timber on vessels, spending several months in that way. He next began buying timber land, hiring men to do the cutting and then shipping the lumber. He bought eighty acres of timber in Jacksonport township and remained thereon for several years. He afterward took up his abode in Jacksonport, where he engaged in carpentering until the last few years and is now retired, enjoying a rest which he richly merits, for he has been an active and useful life.

Mr. Erskine was married when forty-four years of age, to Miss Matilda Klaus, of Green Bay, and they have become the parents of five children: Roswell, of Chicago; Lucinda, also of that city; Louise, at home; Ione, of Chicago; and Beatrice, at home.

In politics Mr. Erskine is a stalwart republican, believing that the party platform contains the best elements of good government. He was township clerk and assessor for a number of years and was justice of the peace, and in public office made an excellent record for loyalty and for efficient service. In his life he has had many hard knocks and his path has been beset with difficulties and obstacles, but he has steadily worked his way upward until in the evening of his days he is in possession of a substantial competence as the reward of his former labors—a competence sufficient to supply him with all of the comforts and some of the luxuries of life.

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#### BARNARD WALTHER.

Barnard Walther, the owner of the finest and best improved farm in Sevastopol township, situated on section 11, claims Germany as the land of his birth. He was born January 24, 1857, and his parents were John and Margaret Walther, who never left that country. The father, who was a farmer and wagon maker by occupation, died during the youth of our subject, but the mother is still living and makes her home in Diedolf, Germany. In the family were five children, namely: Christiana, who married John Erk, of Diedolf, and died in 1915; Kaspar Fred, now a resident of Streator, Illinois; Barnard, of this review; Katherine, the wife of Fred Pittorf, of Egg Harbor, Wisconsin; and Mrs. Caroline Prunngraber, of Westheim, Germany.

During his boyhood and youth Barnard Walther was given good educational advantages and after leaving school at the age of fourteen years learned the carpenter's trade, at which he was employed in his native land until twenty-four years of age. He then came to the United States, becoming a resident of Jacksonport, Door county, Wisconsin, in 1881. Here he had friends and relatives living at that time and he soon found employment at his trade, which he continued to follow for one year. During that time he and his brother Kaspar built the Catholic church at Jacksonport. Our subject then purchased forty acres of timber land in Jacksonport township and cleared thirty-three acres, which he improved and placed under cultivation. Subsequently he bought one hundred and twenty acres a half mile north of his first purchase and cut the timber from ninety acres of this tract. He lived there until 1903, when he sold the place and bought the southwest quarter of section 11, Sevastopol township.



MR. AND MRS. BARNARD WALTHER





and at once turned his attention to its improvement and cultivation. He now has the finest farm in that locality, it being improved with good and substantial buildings which stand as monuments to his thrift and industry. He has always been a hard working man and to his perseverance and untiring labor, as well as to his good management, is attributable his excellent success.

It was on the 16th of June, 1881, that Mr. Walther landed in Baltimore, Maryland, and on the 23d of that month he reached Jacksonport, Wisconsin. Three days later he was united in marriage to Miss Caroline Goefert, who had crossed the ocean on the same boat with him in company with her grandmother. She is a daughter of John and Katherine Mary Goefert, natives of Germany, who are now living with our subject. Mr. and Mrs. Walther have nine children, namely: Emma, the wife of Edmund Henschel, of Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin; Charles, of Sturgeon Bay; Fred, of Jacksonport; Selma, the wife of Charles Urban, of Jacksonport; Matilda, the wife of Henry Meyer, of Sturgeon Bay; John, of Sevastopol township; Henry, at home; George, at home; and Hildegard, also at home.

The family are widely and favorably known in this locality and Mr. Walther is regarded as one of its leading citizens. Since granted the right of franchise he has cast his ballot with the republican party and has taken a commendable interest in public affairs. In religious faith he is a German Lutheran and his life has been consistent with the teachings of that organization.

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#### C. A. LUNDBERG.

For more than a third of a century C. A. Lundberg has been connected with mercantile interests at Fish Creek and throughout the entire period has conducted a first class establishment, carrying an attractive line of goods, while his business methods commend him to the confidence and support of the general public. He was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, August 25, 1854, and is a son of Carl and Catherine Lundberg, the father a native of Stockholm, Sweden, and the mother of Christiania, Norway. They arrived in America in early life, after spending three months on the water in one of the old-time sailing vessels, and it was about 1842 when they established their home in Milwaukee. The father was a cooper by trade and followed that pursuit for a considerable period. In 1867 he removed to Fish Creek, Door county, where he continued to work at his trade for many years, or up to his retirement from active business life in 1897. His remaining days were passed in Fish Creek, where his death occurred about 1905, when he was eighty-four years of age. His wife also reached an advanced age, her death occurring in 1903, when she had passed the eighty-second milestone on life's journey. Both were born in the year 1821 and for a very extended period they lived together in the bonds of wedlock, the labors of the one assisting and rounding out the labors of the other. They were among the worthy pioneers of this section of the state and enjoyed the high regard of all with whom they were associated.

C. A. Lundberg was reared under the parental roof and pursued his education in the schools of Milwaukee until he reached the age of thirteen years, when

the family removed to Fish Creek, and later he continued his studies here. Under the direction of his father he learned the cooper's trade and he also sailed to some extent on the lakes. In 1881, however, he turned his attention to merchandising and thus for thirty-six years has been actively associated with the commercial interests of Fish Creek. He carries a large stock of goods and enjoys an extensive patronage. His business methods are such as will bear the closest investigation and scrutiny. He has ever recognized the fact that satisfied patrons are the best advertisement and he has always put forth the most energetic efforts to please his customers.

On the 13th of September, 1885, Mr. Lundberg was united in marriage to Miss Alice M. Schuyler, a daughter of Albe and Amanda (Hitt) Schuyler, who were natives of New York and became pioneers of Door county. The father here turned his attention to the lumber business and to farming and also engaged in the practice of veterinary surgery, as do all of his sons. He resided in Clay Banks township during the greater part of his connection with the middle west and passed away in May, 1905. His widow still survives and is now living in Sawyer. To Mr. and Mrs. Lundberg have been born five children: Ruth, who died in 1901 at the age of fourteen years; Gertrude, the wife of Ray Cuff, living in Barron county, Wisconsin; Alma, who is a trained nurse; Lucile, at home; and Robert, who died in 1911 at the age of six years.

The religious faith of the family is that of the Baptist church, in which the parents hold membership. Mr. Lundberg is also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Knights of the Maccabees. He votes with the republican party but does not seek nor desire office, preferring always to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs, which have been carefully conducted and which have brought to him a measure of success that places him among the men of affluence of his part of the county. He has lived in this section of the state for a half century and has been an interested witness of its growth and development, for at all times he has borne his part in the work of general progress and improvement.

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#### CHAUNCEY MACKEY.

Chauncey Mackey is a representative farmer living on section 17, Clay Banks township, and in other ways is prominently connected with business interests of Door county. He was born June 29, 1863, on the lake shore in Clay Banks township, his parents being John and Antoinette (Hitt) Mackey. The father was born October 28, 1834, and the mother on the 2d of May, 1845. They arrived in Door county in the early '50s and the father gave his attention to farming and logging up to the time of his demise, which occurred November 28, 1907. His widow survived until the 9th of September, 1914, when she was laid by his side in Clay Banks cemetery. They were the parents of four children: Frances, the wife of Ben Minsker, of Good Harbor, Michigan; Chauncey, of this review; Eugene, who is living in Chicago; and Melvin, who is a resident of Milwaukee.

Chauncey Mackey was educated in the common schools of his native town-





MR. AND MRS. ALEXANDER TUFTS

ship and through the period of his boyhood worked with his father upon the home farm, there remaining until he had attained his majority. He then started out in the business world on his own account and was connected with the fishing industry until nineteen years ago, when he took up his abode upon the farm that is now his place of residence. Here he is successfully and energetically carrying on general agricultural pursuits, having brought his fields to a high state of cultivation. He is also engaged in dairying and for this purpose keeps good grades of Holstein cattle.

On the 7th of December, 1886, Mr. Mackey was united in marriage to Miss Mary Olson, who came from Norway in her girlhood days. They have become the parents of six children: Molly, now the wife of Archie Mitts; John, who is living on his grandfather's homestead in Clay Banks township; and Clarabelle, Catherine, Grace and Lawrence, who are yet at home.

The family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and Mr. Mackey gives his political support to the republican party. He has served as supervisor for two terms and is ever interested in those things which pertain to public progress and improvement. He has been a stockholder of the telephone company and he is identified with all progressive measures which keep the district and county in touch with the trend of modern thought, progress and improvement. He is highly esteemed as a representative citizen, as a reliable business man and as a faithful friend, and he has many friends in this county.

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#### MILLARD TUFTS.

Millard Tufts, principal of the Door-Kewaunee Training School for Teachers at Algoma, was born in Clay Banks township, Door county, June 10, 1889, a son of Alexander and Ellen (Shaw) Tufts, both of whom are natives of County Down, Ireland. The father served in the English army for fifteen years and for six years of that time was on active duty in India. Later he crossed the Atlantic to Canada and thence came to Door county in 1869. Here he was married to Miss Ellen Shaw, with whom he had previously been acquainted in Ireland. Alexander Tufts was a second cousin of Jim Tufts, one of the pioneer settlers of Door county, well known as a lumberman and as a captain on the lakes. It was at the request of his cousin that Alexander Tufts came to Door county. For a time he engaged in clerking for William Horn at Horn's Pier but after a brief period purchased a farm in Clay Banks township and he is still owner and occupant of the old homestead, which he has carefully developed and improved through all these years. To him and his wife have been born nine children: Moses, deceased; Eliza, the wife of Michael Moore, a farmer of Sevastopol township; Robert, living in Algoma, Wisconsin; Ellen, the wife of Edward Hunt, of Sawyer; Alexander, whose home is at Portland, Oregon; Jennie; John; Millard; and Frances.

Millard Tufts is indebted to the public school system of the county for his early educational opportunities. After attending the high school of Sturgeon Bay he spent four years in the Oshkosh Normal School and at the present time is taking special work in the State University at Madison. In the meantime he

has become closely connected with the educational interests of the county and state. In 1907 he served as principal of a ten-grade school at Channing, Michigan, and later did substitute work at Little Chute, Wisconsin, in the high school. For three years he was principal of the high school at Walworth, Wisconsin, and in 1914 he was appointed county superintendent of schools of Door county following the resignation of George A. Bassford. The following year he was elected to the position and he instituted many progressive and helpful movements in connection with the schools. He organized boys' and girls' agricultural clubs and also established school credits for home work. He is very progressive and advanced the schools in accord with the ideas of modern education. He resigned the county superintendency in 1917 to accept the position of principal of the Door-Kewaunee Training School for Teachers at Algoma.

Professor Tufts is independent in his political views, supporting men and measures rather than party. Fraternally he is connected with the Masons and has taken the chapter degrees. He is also identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, while his religious faith is evidenced in his membership in the Methodist church. He is actuated by high and honorable principles in all that he does and in his professional life is working ever toward advanced ideals.

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#### ELI STEGMANN.

Door county has been signally favored in the class of men who have occupied her public offices. They have on the whole been capable, faithful and efficient and have rendered good service to the public. In this connection Eli Stegmann is well known and he is now filling the office of sheriff of the county while maintaining his residence at Sturgeon Bay. He was born in Forestville, this county, July 4, 1887, a son of John and Matilda (Peterson) Stegmann, both of whom were natives of Algoma, Wisconsin. The father was a farmer by occupation and in early life came to Door county with his parents and purchased land near Forestville. This he has improved and has since cultivated, his fields being now highly developed so that good crops are annually gathered.

Eli Stegmann was reared and educated in Door county, attended school until he reached the age of fourteen years, when he started out to earn his own living, and since that time he has depended upon his own labors and resources for all that he has attained and enjoyed. He began working by the month and at various times has been employed in connection with brick manufacturing, with the lumber business, with orcharding, with the operation of a sawmill and with threshing. He also had the Standard Oil wagon four years and in September, 1916, he was called to public office, being elected to the position of sheriff of Door county in which capacity he is now serving. He is prompt, faithful and fearless in the discharge of his duty and is doing much to maintain respect for and observance of the law.

On the 6th of June, 1917, Mr. Stegmann was united in marriage to Miss Norma Zill, daughter of Charles Zill, who was one of the pioneer settlers of Door county and is now residing in Sevastopol township, where he is engaged in farming, being well known in the community where he makes his home.



ELI STEGMANN





The religious faith of Mr. Stegmann is that of the German Lutheran church, to the teachings of which he loyally adheres. In his fraternal relations he is connected with the Moose, the Eagles and the Modern Woodmen of America, his political allegiance has always been given to the republican party since he became a voter and he has given earnest and effective effort to promote the growth and insure the success of his party. He is well known in this county where he has always resided and the fact that many of his stanch friends are those who have known him from his boyhood indicates that his has been a well spent life. He has worked earnestly and persistently and is making steady progress.

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#### GEORGE HEMBEL.

George Hembel, who is devoting his time and energy to general farming and dairying, is a well known resident of Nasewaupee township and has a wide circle of friends. His birth occurred upon the farm where he still resides, March 8, 1880, and his parents are Phillip and Katy (Weisner) Hembel, who are now living in Sawyer, where the father owns an implement business.

George Hembel passed his boyhood and youth much as other farm bred boys, attending the public schools and assisting his father with the farm work. In 1905 when about twenty-five years old he began farming on his own account and as the years have passed his resources have steadily increased. He now owns the homestead on section 4, Nasewaupee township, and since acquiring title to the place has erected thereon a fine two story residence, a good barn and a silo. He is engaged in dairying to some extent and also does general farming and his efforts have been so well directed that he now ranks among the substantial farmers of his locality. In addition to his farm he owns stock in the local telephone company.

Mr. Hembel was married October 9, 1906, to Miss Frieda Borck, of Forestville, a daughter of Joe Borck. Their children are four in number: Sylvia, Edna, Lester and Erna.

Mr. Hembel has not allied himself with any party, preferring to cast an independent ballot. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the German Lutheran church and its teachings are the guiding principles of his life. He has thoroughly identified his interests with those of Door county, of which he has been a lifelong resident, and he never fails to lend his influence to all movements for the general good.

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#### M. J. JISCHKE.

M. J. Jischke is the postmaster of the village of Sister Bay, where he is also actively engaged in business in connection with his father, who is proprietor of a meat market. M. J. Jischke was born in Germany, June 23, 1885, a son of Frank and Martha (Bothe) Jischke, who were natives of the same country. On coming to America they made their way into the interior of the country, settling first at Ephraim, Door county, Wisconsin, in October, 1892. There the father en-

gaged in the butchering business and he still continues in the same line at Sister Bay.

M. J. Jischke was a lad of but seven years at the time of the emigration to the new world, so that his education was largely acquired on this side of the Atlantic. He attended school at Baileys Harbor until sixteen years of age, when he began assisting his father. His mother did some carpet weaving, having learned the trade in Germany, while M. J. Jischke and his father were active in the butchering business. On the 16th of September, 1902, the family removed to Sister Bay, where the subject of this review continued to aid in the conduct of the butchering business. He is still active in that business and at the same time he is filling the position of postmaster, to which he was appointed on the 24th of February, 1915.

On the 14th of September, 1910, Mr. Jischke was united in marriage to Miss Mary M. Bunda, daughter of Wenzel and Mary (Worachek) Bunda, who were natives of Kewaunee, Wisconsin, and settled at Sister Bay, where they lived until about twenty years ago. The father engaged in conducting a general store there until his death. Mr. and Mrs. Jischke have become the parents of two children, Joseph and Alice.

The religious faith of the family is that of the Roman Catholic church. Mr. Jischke is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and his political faith is that of the democratic party. He has served as constable of the village of Sister Bay and now in the position of postmaster is making an excellent record by his fidelity to the duties that devolve upon him. He has always lived in this section of the state since coming to the new world and he is widely and favorably known in the village where he resides and in the surrounding district.

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#### ARNOLD N. WAGENER.

Arnold N. Wagener, proprietor of a saloon at Sturgeon Bay, was born in the city where he still resides in October, 1879, and he is a son of N. Arnold and Isabelle Wagener, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work. He was reared under the parental roof and enjoyed the educational opportunities accorded by the public schools here. He afterward learned the cigar makers' trade and later established a factory, which he conducted for a year and a half. He later worked for his father for a year and a half, and then entered into partnership with G. Jacquart in the cigar business. That association continued for eight months after which Mr. Wagener sold out and established a saloon. Subsequently he again engaged in the cigar business with John Graef and they continued together for one year. Mr. Wagener spent four years as a bar tender, after which he bought out a saloon which he conducted for a year. The town then voted no license and for eighteen months thereafter he conducted a restaurant, but when the town again voted to license saloons, he established his present business, in which he has since engaged.

On the 4th of November, 1908, Mr. Wagener was united in marriage to Miss Pearl S. Houle, who is a member of the Methodist church. In politics Mr. Wagener maintains an independent course. He has served as deputy sheriff of Door

county, filling that position for two years under his brother. He is a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles and is treasurer of the local lodge and also of the Sons of Hermann. He belongs to the Commercial Club and to the Twenty Club.

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EBEN B. WOOD.

Eben B. Wood, who is actively identified with the fishing industry, makes his home in Union township, Door county. He was born in Holland, Sheboygan county, Wisconsin, on the 15th of December, 1856, his parents being Ephraim and Rose (Ingersoll) Wood, the former a native of Vermont and the latter of Cleveland, Ohio. The father spent his youth in New England but afterward removed to Cleveland, Ohio, where he married, and a little later took up his abode upon a farm in Sheboygan county, Wisconsin, establishing his home on an eighty acre tract of land near Holland. He also conducted a store in Amsterdam, Wisconsin, in connection with the development and cultivation of his land and remained a valued resident of that district for fourteen years. On the expiration of that period he returned to Cleveland, Ohio, where he conducted a stone quarry, and later he lived at Newburg, Wisconsin, until his death, which occurred in the fall of 1881, when he was sixty-seven years of age. His widow survived until 1909 and had reached the age of seventy-two years when called to her final rest. When the father came to Wisconsin he found a new and undeveloped country. The forests stood in their primeval strength, the roads were uncut, the streams unbridged. People had to blaze their way through the forests and they utilized every available opportunity to make this district a habitable one. Mr. Wood built a log cabin, in which there was no door or window for a time and ingress and egress had to be made through an opening in the roof. Later, however, conveniences were added to this pioneer home and still later a frame dwelling was erected.

Eben B. Wood spent his boyhood days upon the home farm until he reached the age of eleven years and then accompanied his parents to Cleveland, where he had the opportunity of attending the city schools. He continued his residence in Cleveland until he reached the age of twenty-four, when he went to Bay City, Michigan. Afterward he resided for a time in Chicago and still later in Cedar Grove, Sheboygan county, Wisconsin. He became identified with the fishing business as an employe of George Rathburn and still later he removed to Schumacher's Point. Since that period he has been identified with the fishing industry in Door county and now makes his home in Union township, from which point he directs his business interests. He is actively engaged along that line and his business has reached substantial and gratifying proportions.

In 1886 Mr. Wood was united in marriage to Miss Octavia Lampereur, a daughter of Eugene and Lucy (Delwich) Lampereur, who were natives of Belgium, and Mrs. Wood was born in Suamico, Brown county, Wisconsin. To Mr. and Mrs. Wood have been born ten children, namely: Clara, Eugene, Rosie, Eli, Charles, Mary, Ephraim, Henry, John and Laura.

In his political views Mr. Wood is a republican and has always supported the party, but he does not seek nor desire office as a reward for party fealty.

He has led a busy life and while he had no special advantages at the outset of his career he has made steady progress and is today conducting a successful business, while his personal characteristics and his fidelity in citizenship make him one of the valued residents of this section of the state.

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### RALPH JENQUIN.

Ralph Jenquin, living on section 17, Gardner township, is the owner of a store and cheese factory and both branches of his business are being successfully conducted. In addition he owns an excellent farm which has been brought to a high state of cultivation and improvement. He is a native son of Gardner township, born July 13, 1877, his parents being Charles and Phillipine Jenquin, both of whom were born in Belgium, where they were reared, educated and married. In the year 1867 they crossed the Atlantic to the new world, for the favorable reports which they had heard concerning the opportunities of this country led them to desire to try their fortune on this side of the Atlantic. Making their way into the interior of the country, they settled at Little Sturgeon, Wisconsin, where the father was first employed in a sawmill. He carefully saved his earnings and eventually purchased eighty acres of land, to which later he added another tract of forty acres. He cleared all this with the assistance of his sons and transformed it into productive fields. He took up the business of cheese manufacturing in 1892, establishing a factory at that time, and in 1894 he also opened a general store, which was the first in his section of the county. As merchant, cheese manufacturer and farmer he made for himself a creditable position in the business circles of the county. He is energetic and his business ability has enabled him to press steadily forward toward the goal of success. In religious belief Mr. Jenquin is a Spiritualist. Politically he is a republican and for twenty years he filled the office of town treasurer. He has also been school treasurer and was clerk for many years. He now makes his home with his son Victor in Green Bay. As the years have gone on he has gained a wide acquaintance and his sterling worth of character has been recognized by all with whom he has been associated. To him and his wife were born seven children: Matilda, the wife of Emil Corbisier, Sr.; Bertha, who is the wife of Alfred Neveu, of Green Bay; Josephine, the wife of Joseph Pigeon, of Green Bay; George, who follows farming in Brown county; Ralph, of this review; Victor, who is connected with the Continental Store at Green Bay; and Victoria, the wife of Urban Neveu, of Green Bay.

Ralph Jenquin, through the period of his boyhood and youth, worked upon the home farm through the summer seasons and in the winter months attended the public schools. He started out in life independently in 1904, at the age of twenty-seven years, upon the old homestead, where he took charge of the store and cheese factory. He has since continued in this business and has made it a profitable undertaking. He now employs two cheesemakers and the product of his factory finds a ready sale on the market because of its excellence. He gives attention to sanitary conditions and utilizes the latest processes in manufacture. He is the secretary of the Gardner Telephone Company, which

position he has occupied since 1908. Interested in everything that pertains to public progress and improvement, he has cooperated in many plans which have had direct benefit upon the welfare and upbuilding of his district.

In 1902 Mr. Jenquin was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Van Calistor, of Green Bay, who departed this life June 13, 1917, and was laid to rest in the cemetery in Gardner township. They were the parents of five children: Arthur, Elmer, Lawrence, Harold and Rubele.

Mr. Jenquin is a Spiritualist in religious faith. His political views are in accord with the principles and teachings of the republican party, to which he has given stanch allegiance since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. For three years he filled the office of assessor, was also treasurer for four years, has been township clerk for seven years and for fifteen years was justice of the peace. He is also an officer of the schools and the cause of education finds in him a warm champion. He was first called to office in connection with educational interests on attaining his majority. He is serving as clerk of Consolidated School No. 1, and is a member of the common school committee of Door county. His marked characteristics are those which in every land and clime awaken confidence and regard. He is reliable in business, enterprising in citizenship, faithful to the ties of home and friendship and in a word his life has ever been characterized by manly principles.

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#### KARL KRAUEL.

Karl Krauel was a well known farmer of Egg Harbor township and at the time of his death held title to two hundred acres of excellent land. He was born in Germany, April 27, 1853, and was a son of Fritz and Caroline Krauel, also natives of the fatherland. The mother passed away in that country, but the father, who was a laborer by occupation, afterward came to America and spent his last years in the home of our subject, dying in 1898.

Karl Krauel was reared under the parental roof and obtained his education in the schools of Germany. For a number of years he worked for others in that country but in 1880 emigrated to the United States and at once made his way to Door county, Wisconsin. After working as a hired hand for two years, he bought two hundred acres of farming land on section 33, Egg Harbor township, and at once began improving the place. He erected substantial buildings, placed his land under the plow and as the years passed brought the land to a high state of cultivation. He raised both grain and stock and so managed his affairs that he gained a competence. His success was founded upon progressive methods and good management and he ranked among the leading farmers of his township.

On the 14th of October, 1876, Karl Krauel was married to Miss Carolina Hanaman, and they became the parents of nine children: one who died in infancy; Minnie, deceased; Ida; Martha; Emma; Louise; Helena; William; and Herman. Emma, now Mrs. John Shultz, is living in Egg Harbor township and has four children: Herman, William, John and Irene.

Mr. Krauel was a stanch republican in politics but was never an office seeker.

He held membership in the Lutheran church. Fraternally he was identified with the Sons of Hermann. His death, which occurred in August, 1913, was regarded as a loss to the community and his memory is still cherished by his friends. Mrs. Krauel is residing on the old home place, the operation of which she is supervising and is manifesting good business ability in the management of her affairs. She too is well known and well liked in the township.

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### H. J. SANDERSON.

H. J. Sanderson, of Sturgeon Bay, editor of the Door County Democrat, has had much to do with public interests both as a worker in the ranks of the republican party and through his official connection with journalistic interests, for it is a widely recognized fact that the press is both the mirror and the molder of public opinion.

Born on the 2d of October, 1875, in the city which is still his home, Mr. Sanderson is a son of William A. and Sarah (Rice) Sanderson. The father, a native of New York, was a son of an Episcopal minister who was born in Scotland but spent the greater part of his life in the Empire State. William A. Sanderson there resided until 1866, when he removed westward and became a resident of Sturgeon Bay, where he took up the profession of teaching. Later, however, he was lighthouse keeper at Cana Island for a quarter of a century but is now living retired in Sturgeon Bay. It was here that he wedded Sarah Rice, a native of this city and a daughter of Daniel Rice, who was one of the earliest settlers of the county. Mr. and Mrs. Sanderson are today well known and prominent among the residents of Door county, where they have made their home for more than a half century.

H. J. Sanderson, after acquiring a public school education, began learning the printer's trade, which he followed in Green Bay and in other places, acquainting himself with every phase of the business. For two years he was editor of the Algoma Record and afterward left the state, spending a year in Arizona and in Colorado. On the expiration of that period he returned to Sturgeon Bay and after spending two years in the state department as game warden became connected with the Door County Democrat, of which he is now part owner. This paper was established by Pinney & Shepard on the 28th of January, 1893. The latter retired in 1894 but Mr. Pinney remained in active connection with the paper until his demise, which occurred July 30, 1909. The paper was then conducted under the management of Mr. Sanderson until March 4, 1910, when it was purchased by the Door County Publishing Company, of which H. J. Sanderson is the president; Edward L. Houle, vice president; and Arthur T. Harris, secretary and treasurer. J. E. Harris was also financially interested in the company. All four of these gentlemen were former employes on the paper. At the time of the organization and incorporation of the company the Door County Democrat became a republican paper. In September, 1911, the interest of J. E. Harris was purchased by the other members of the firm, who have since owned and published the paper, which is a weekly journal issued each Friday. It contains from ten to twelve pages, all home print, and has a circulation of twenty-nine



ARTHUR T. HARRIS



EDWARD L. HOYLE



H. J. SANDERSON





hundred. The plant is equipped with most modern machinery and facilities for doing most excellent work in newspaper publication and in job printing. This was the third paper in Wisconsin to install a model 14 linotype. In addition to publishing an attractive and readable journal, the company also maintains a large job printing department which is liberally patronized, and the business in both branches has long since reached profitable and satisfactory proportions.

On the 1st of August, 1901, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Sanderson and Miss Mary Pavlicek, of Algoma, Wisconsin, and they now have a daughter, Beatrice. Fraternally Mr. Sanderson is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His political endorsement is given to the republican party and for one term he served on the state central committee. He served for three years as deputy collector of customs at Sturgeon Bay but has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking, although keeping well informed on the questions and issues of the day.

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#### EDWARD L. HOULE.

Edward L. Houle is the vice president of the Door County Publishing Company, engaged in the publication of the Door County Democrat, and has had long experience in this business, which he entered at the age of thirteen years and with which he has been continuously connected, working his way upward step by step to his present position. He was born in Sturgeon Bay, where he still makes his home, on the 6th day of May, 1878, and is a son of John and Ida (Seymour) Houle, who were natives of Brown county, Wisconsin. The father was a carpenter by trade and in early life came to Sturgeon Bay, where he continued to work in connection with building operations up to the time of his death, which occurred February 21, 1913. His widow survives.

The boyhood days of Edward L. Houle were spent in his native city and he attended its public schools and the Catholic parochial school, but at the early age of thirteen years began providing for his own support by learning the printer's trade with J. J. Pinney, by whom he was employed continuously for about twenty years or until the death of the latter. His apprenticeship began in the job printing business six months before Mr. Pinney launched the Door County Democrat in 1893, and he has been with this publication throughout its existence with the exception of four months spent in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1906, where he went to learn the operation of the monotype. He grew up with the business, became Mr. Pinney's "right-hand-man" and at an early age for such responsibilities was placed in charge of the mechanical department of the newspaper office as foreman. He made himself familiar with every department of the business and became a thorough journeyman country printer, mastering every branch of the business, and has always proven equal to his responsibilities and faithful to his employer. He has worked with every employe who has ever held a position with the paper. His life's work has been with the Door County Democrat, and his long and responsible connection with the late J. J. Pinney and with the paper stands as an unmistakable proof of his capability, industry and trustworthiness.

Upon the death of Mr. Pinney, three of the old employes of the business pur-

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chased the establishment and organized and incorporated the Door County Publishing Company, of which H. J. Sanderson became president; Edward L. Houle, vice president; and A. T. Harris, secretary-treasurer. This was done in 1910. They are the sole owners, stockholders and officers of the corporation and have continued the publication of the newspaper, which is now in its twenty-sixth year. They publish an interesting weekly and have a thoroughly equipped plant, not only for the publication of their newspaper, but also for the conducting of a large job printing business. Mr. Houle operates the typesetting machine, a Model 14 Mergenthaler linotype.

On the first day of June, 1908, Mr. Houle was married to Miss Martha M. Erickson, a daughter of Nels P. and Ingeborg Erickson. Martha Erickson attended the public schools of Sturgeon Bay, graduating from the high school with the class of 1898. She attended business college, became a stenographer, and was for years employed in that capacity in the law office of the late Attorney R. P. Cody at Sturgeon Bay. Her parents were natives of Norway and came to America in early life, settling in this county, at what is now Circle Ridge, near Sawyer, where the father purchased land and engaged in farming. Both Mr. and Mrs. Erickson have now passed away.

Mr. and Mrs. Houle have become parents of four children: Vera Olive, born March 26, 1909; Marion Emily, born January 29, 1912; Adele Katherine, born September 26, 1914; and Beulah Josephine, born September 12, 1917. The religious faith of the family is that of the Catholic church. They reside at number 524 Garland street and their home, which they own, is the abode of warm-hearted hospitality.

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#### RUDOLPH SOUKUP.

Educational interests of Wisconsin find a worthy representative in Rudolph Soukup, the efficient superintendent of the schools of Sturgeon Bay. Moreover his record contradicts the old proverb that a prophet is not without honor save in his own country for Mr. Soukup has won a creditable name and place in educational circles in the community in which his birth occurred. He is a native of Sturgeon Bay, born May 27, 1881, and is a son of Wenzel and Anna Soukup, who were natives of Bohemia. Coming to America about 1857, they made their way at once through the interior of the country and settled in Manitowoc county, Wisconsin. The father was a wagon maker and millwright by trade and worked along those lines throughout his entire life. He came to Door county in 1873 and was employed by A. W. Lawrence & Company for fifteen years. He afterward conducted a hotel and engaged in merchandising in Nasewaupee. He died in 1895, while his wife still survives.

Rudolph Soukup was reared and educated in Sturgeon Bay, where he completed the high school course and was graduated with the class of 1902. He afterward taught for two years in the rural schools of Door county and then entered the State University from which he was graduated with the class of 1908. He afterward had charge of the commercial department of the Oshkosh (Wisconsin) high school for three years and on the expiration of that period came to Sturgeon Bay to accept the position of superintendent of schools in his native city.

where he has since remained, giving excellent satisfaction, by reason of the progressive methods which he follows. He inspires teachers and pupils with much of his own zeal and interest in the work, and he is always on the outlook for improved methods that will advance the standards of the schools and make the methods of instruction more efficient.

Mr. Soukup belongs to the Masonic fraternity and the Elks Lodge. He has social qualities which render him popular and his sterling traits of character have won him the respect and goodwill of all with whom he has come in contact.

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#### BO L. ANDERSEN.

Bo L. Andersen, prominently identified with the development and progress of Washington island, where he has lived since 1883, was born November 4, 1865, in Onsala, Sweden, a son of B. A. and Louise Andersen. The father was born September 2, 1833, and the mother on the 14th of October, 1828. They came to America in 1867, settling in Chicago, and the father, who was the owner of the brig *Gladiator*, sailed on the Lakes. On the 11th of June, 1883, he removed to Washington island with his son, Bo L., of this review and later he purchased land for a homestead, securing thirty-three acres on the shores of Detroit Harbor. He continued to sail until his death, being drowned when falling overboard in the Milwaukee river. He passed away July 15, 1892, while his widow survived until August 6, 1914. They were the parents of two children, the daughter, Aurora, being now the wife of Nor Shellswick, of Washington island.

Bo L. Andersen was an infant when brought to the new world and his early boyhood was passed in Chicago. In 1872 the family returned to Sweden, where our subject pursued his education in both the common and high schools. In 1879 they again came to the United States and took up their residence in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. On the 11th of June, 1883, Bo L. Andersen arrived on Washington island, having in the meantime continued his education in the schools of Milwaukee. He afterward sailed with his father until he accepted the position of postmaster in April, 1892. He continued to fill that position for fifteen years and three months, becoming the first postmaster of Detroit Harbor and making a most excellent record by reason of his capability and fidelity to duty. At the time that he was appointed postmaster he embarked also in the mercantile business and is now the owner of a large general store in Detroit Harbor. In fact he ranks as one of the most progressive business men of the place and has been prominently identified with not only business affairs but with public interests as well. In 1894 he established the *Ida-bo Inn*, which was the first hotel on the island to take care of summer tourists. He was also instrumental in organizing the creamery and has done much for the development and progress of this section of the state. He deserves much credit for instituting the movement that resulted in establishing the first macadam road on the island, extending from Washington Harbor to Detroit Harbor. He was a leader in securing the rural free mail delivery and he has filled the office of notary public for twenty years. In 1913 he was elected chairman of the township board and has since served in that capacity, receiving the almost unanimous

vote of the district in which he lives. He was largely instrumental in securing the establishment of the life saving station on Plum island and he built the tower under contract.

On the 26th of October, 1893, Mr. Andersen was united in marriage to Miss Ida Frances Washburn, of Sturgeon Bay, a daughter of Frank Washburn. She was born November 27, 1866, and died on the 2d of October, 1914. She was educated in Dover, Maine, and for several years taught school, becoming acquainted with Mr. Andersen while teaching on Washington island. To them were born two children, who died in infancy. Mrs. Andersen was a very active and prominent worker in the Methodist Episcopal church and Sunday school and was largely instrumental in organizing this church. She did everything in her power to promote its upbuilding and extend its influence and her work was a most potent element in advancing moral development in this community. Mr. Andersen has always given his political allegiance to the republican party and patriotism has ever been one of his marked characteristics. He deserves much credit for what he has accomplished, for he started out in the business world empty handed. Today he is not only the owner of the business enterprises of Detroit Harbor already mentioned but he also holds considerable land on the island and in connection with Ole Christianson is the owner of several hundred acres additional. All this is indicative of his life of activity and usefulness. He has wisely utilized his time, his talents and his opportunities and as the years have passed he has put forth effort along lines which have not only advanced his individual interests but have promoted the welfare and prosperity of the community.

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#### WILLIAM SCHAEFER.

William Schaefer, who has met with gratifying success in his farming operations and is a popular resident of Sevastopol township, was born in that township on his father's homestead on the 7th of May, 1880. Further mention of his parents, Cuno and Devota Schaefer, is given in the sketch of his brother August Schaefer elsewhere in this work. During his boyhood this region was characterized by pioneer conditions and the schools offered but a limited course. He pursued his education therein until he was fifteen years old and then gave his entire attention to assisting his father with the farm work, so continuing until he was twenty-four years old. Later he operated a part of the home farm on his own account and in 1910, when the estate was divided, received title to the south half of the northwest quarter of section 25, and the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section 26. Subsequently he purchased the north half of the northwest quarter of section 25, thus bringing his total holdings up to two hundred acres. The entire tract is cleared and the improvements on the place are excellent. He engages in general farming and as the years pass his resources steadily increase, for he is energetic and progressive and understands thoroughly the successful management of a modern farm.

On the 25th of October, 1905, Mr. Schaefer was married to Miss Nellie Krebbers, a daughter of John and Anna Krebbers, who were born, reared and married in Holland. When the daughter was a child of five years the family

removed to the United States and located in Sturgeon Bay township, Door county, Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Krebbers now reside on land owned by our subject. Mr. and Mrs. Schaefer are the parents of six children, namely: Celia, Lester, Catherine, Cuno, Joseph and Roy.

Mr. Schaefer is a republican in politics but has not taken an active part in public affairs, preferring to concentrate his efforts upon his farm work. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Catholic Knights of Wisconsin, and his many admirable qualities have gained him a large number of friends both within and without that organization.

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### J. W. ROGERS.

The name of Rogers is prominently associated with the history of Door county, where representatives of the family have lived from pioneer times, taking an active part in the development and upbuilding of this section of the state, particularly in the improvement of agricultural conditions. J. W. Rogers is now the manager of an excellent farm of one hundred and ten acres situated on Rowleys bay, Liberty Grove township. He was born in Ottawa, Illinois, January 2, 1872, a son of S. A. and Julia (Blawis) Rogers, who were natives of the state of New York. Removing westward, the father settled in Illinois, where he engaged in the farming business, and in 1876 he removed from that state to Rowleys bay, Door county, where he purchased considerable land. Here he became extensively engaged in the lumber trade, with which he was identified for some time, and as the years passed he made extensive investments in property in this section. Success in large measure attended his efforts, and having become the possessor of a very substantial competence, he retired from active business life and is now living in New York in the enjoyment of a well earned rest.

J. W. Rogers attended the schools of Rowleys Bay and assisted his father in various ways in the conduct of his business activities. His father added to his landed possessions from time to time as his financial resources increased and at present the family holds title to over twenty-three hundred acres of land in Door county, of which thirteen hundred acres is devoted to pasture. J. W. Rogers is now actively engaged in cultivating a tract of one hundred and ten acres and in addition he also engages in raising cattle. He is a well known and representative business man, thoroughly familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops and in fact he takes many an initial step along the lines of progressive and scientific farming.

On the 25th of June, 1902, Mr. Rogers was united in marriage to Miss Hannah Newman, a native of Ellison Bay, Wisconsin, and a daughter of John Newman, now deceased, who was a nearly settler and well known citizen of Ellison Bay. Mr. and Mrs. Rogers have become the parents of two children, Clinton and Winfield.

In his political views Mr. Rogers has always been an earnest republican and is a public-spirited and progressive citizen but not an office seeker. However, he has been chairman of the town board for fourteen years. He has membership with the Mystic Workers of the World and in that organization has many friends,

but the number is by no means limited to those who are associated with him in that connection. His memory compasses the period of pioneer existence in this section of the state. He can well relate many an interesting tale of frontier days, when there were only trails through the woods, when wild game was to be had in abundance and when the work of development had scarcely been begun. He has done much to assist in the work of general improvement and the Rogers family has indeed made valuable contribution to the agricultural development of this section of the state. Mr. Rogers is a farsighted business man of keen sagacity, correct in his judgment and enterprising in all that he undertakes.

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### JENS F. JENSEN.

Jens F. Jensen has since 1903 been a rural mail carrier out of Baileys Harbor and his long connection with the position indicates most clearly his fidelity and the trustworthiness with which he performs his duties. He was born in Denmark, March 19, 1870, a son of Martin and Hansine (Martinson) Jensen. His boyhood days were passed in his native country and there he pursued his education. He was reared to the occupation of farming and his youth was largely a period of earnest and unremitting toil. The favorable reports which he heard concerning America and its opportunities led him to the determination to try his fortune on this side of the Atlantic and when twenty-two years of age he crossed the briny deep to the new world. He made his way to Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin, where he took up his abode in 1892. For two years he was employed in farm work and also engaged in railroad work. He likewise spent some time on the lakes as a sailor and in 1903 he was appointed to his present position as rural mail carrier, in which capacity he is now serving.

In 1907 Mr. Jensen was united in marriage to Miss Anna Wildhagan, a daughter of William Wildhagan, a native of England, where Mrs. Jensen was also born. She was brought by her parents to the United States in early girlhood, the family home being established in Racine county, Wisconsin. They also lived for a short time in Colorado and afterward came to Baileys Harbor, where in 1907 their daughter, Anna, became the wife of Jens F. Jensen. Mr. and Mrs. Jensen are widely and favorably known in the village in which they reside and throughout the community they have gained many warm friends.

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### LAWRENCE GISLASON.

Lawrence Gislason, a well known merchant of Detroit Harbor, has passed his entire life in Door county, as his birth occurred on Washington island, May 9, 1886. His father, John Gislason, was born in Iceland, December 12, 1849, and grew to manhood in that country. His father, Gisli Einersen, was a graduate of the Copenhagen Theological Seminary and was a prominent Lutheran minister of Iceland. He married Sigudur Gudmundsdatter, by who he had five children. John Gislason, the youngest of the family, came to the United States in 1870

with three or four other young men, this party being the first to emigrate to America from Iceland. The following year he located in Detroit Harbor, Wisconsin, and for several years he devoted his time to cutting wood. In 1876 he went to Madison, where he attended school for a period, during which time he mastered the English language. On his return to Door county he engaged in clerking for A. A. Koyen for several years and in early manhood he also made a business of fishing for a time. At length he entered the employ of J. C. Corrigan, who owned a store at Detroit Harbor, and when he retired from that business, Mr. Gislason was able to buy him out. He continued to conduct the store until his death and met with gratifying success in its management. He also held title to two hundred and fifty acres of timber land. In politics he was a stanch republican and served as supervisor, as justice of the peace and as clerk of the board of education. In religious faith he was a Lutheran. On the 8th of November, 1877, he married Augusta Barnason, also a native of Iceland, and they became the parents of nine children, namely: Sarah E.; Gisli I.; August; Lawrence; Ella; Charles; Esther; Estella, who died at the age of ten years; and Arthur.

Lawrence Gislason was reared in Door county and supplemented his early education by attending the Lewis Institute in Chicago for three years. He then went to Seattle, Washington, where he engaged in business for two years, or until his father's death, when he returned to Detroit Harbor and took up the management of the store. He has since devoted his entire time to the conduct of his mercantile interests and his patronage is large and gratifying. He believes in investing in local enterprises and owns stock in both the telephone company and the creamery.

Mr. Gislason was married September 15, 1915, to Miss Ruth Rysdorp, of Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin, a daughter of John Rysdorp. To this union has been born a son, Gene R. Mr. Gislason does not consider himself bound by party ties but votes for the candidates whom he deems best fitted for the office in question. He holds membership in the Norwegian Lutheran church and his life has been an expression of the highest moral standards. He possesses the enterprise characteristic of the young man and also sound judgment which combination of qualities insures his continued success.

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#### AUGUST HERLACHE.

August Herlache, who is engaged in general farming and dairying on section 20, Gardner township, was born August 23, 1875, in the township where he still resides, and is a representative of one of the old and worthy families that Belgium has furnished to Door county. His parents were John and Addel Herlache, both natives of Belgium. The father came to the new world when a lad of nine years with his father, John Herlache, Sr., who became identified with farming interests in this county during pioneer times. At the time of the Civil war he put aside all business and personal considerations and joined the army, serving in defense of the Union. His family numbered five children: Tressie, who was the wife of Henry Neuville; Josephine, who became the wife of Eugene Dewarzegars and has

passed away; John, Jr.; Rosa, who became the wife of Nick Libert and is also deceased; and August, who completes the family.

John Herlache, Jr., was born in the year 1853 and spent the first nine years of his life in his native country, after which he came with his parents to the new world and always retained his residence in Door county up to the time of his death. He, too, followed the occupation of farming and his first purchase of land made him owner of forty acres, to which he added from time to time until he became the owner of one hundred and sixty acres, which he cleared and developed, transforming it into productive fields. He died in the year 1908, while his wife still survives. They were the parents of seven children: Victoria, who is now the wife of Ferdinand Delvaux, of Brussels township; Victor, who is living in Gardner township; Josephine, the wife of Oscar Strahl, of Gardner; August and Joe, who are also residents of Gardner; Zora, the wife of Godfrey Laviolette and Arthur, who is living in Gardner.

August Herlache was educated in the common schools and started out to provide for his own support when twenty-three years of age. He purchased forty acres of land for which he paid eight hundred dollars, and this he cleared alone, working diligently and persistently, and eventually he sold that property for three thousand dollars. He then purchased another forty acre tract and from time to time has extended the boundaries of his farm until it now comprises one hundred and sixty acres. This has all been cleared by Mr. Herlache, who in all of his business affairs has had the able assistance and encouragement of his wife. He is now successfully engaged in general farming and dairying and moreover he is a stockholder, a director and one of the line men of the Gardner and Sturgeon Bay Telephone Company.

On the 8th of June, 1898, Mr. Herlache was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Debroux, of Gardner township, and their children are: Jule, who was born June 2, 1900; George, April 16, 1902; Lena, August 19, 1906; Grace, March 1, 1910; and John, October 22, 1912. The religious faith of the family is that of the Spiritualist church, while the political belief of Mr. Herlache is that of the republican party. He does not seek nor desire office, however, but concentrates his efforts and attention upon his business affairs, and in addition to his other interests he is a stockholder in the Equity Elevator Company. His plans are well defined and he carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes.

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#### LEATHEM D. SMITH.

Leathem D. Smith is a capitalist and successful business man of Sturgeon Bay. It is true that he inherited large interests, but there are many who have thus come into possession of substantial holdings who have wrecked their fortunes because of a lack of that sound judgment and the close application and enterprise so necessary in managing and controlling extensive and important business affairs. Mr. Smith, however, has proved adequate to the demands made upon him, showing that he is the possessor of the same substantial qualities that made his father one of the foremost business men of this city.





THOMAS H. SMITH



Leathem D. Smith was born in Sturgeon Bay, September 7, 1886, a son of Thomas Henry and Anna (Daley) Smith, the former a native of Stowe, Massachusetts, and the latter of Canada. They came to Door county as young people about 1870. Thomas Henry Smith, born June 21, 1842, was a son of John and Mary B. (Whitney) Smith, the former a native of Utica, New York, and of English lineage. He removed with his family to Norwich, Connecticut, and there died at a comparatively early age. His wife was a representative of the Whitney family that traces its ancestry back in Massachusetts to 1635. Thomas H. Smith was only about a year old at the time of the removal to Connecticut and was a youth of but fourteen when left an orphan. He began work at the machinist's trade, which he followed until the outbreak of the Civil war. He was a youth of but nineteen when he responded to the country's call and joined Company C, Second Connecticut Volunteer Infantry, with which he participated in the first battle of Bull Run. On the expiration of his three months' term of enlistment he returned to Connecticut, where he again took up work at his trade, and almost his first independent business venture was the manufacture of ninety thousand pairs of ice skates, for which he was awarded a contract.

Mr. Smith came to this state through the influence of his uncle, John Whitney, then proprietor of a machine shop at Green Bay. Apparently trivial circumstances often prove the turning point of one's career and thus it was in the case of Mr. Smith. While working in his uncle's shop, John Leathem, then conducting a mill at New Franklin, ten miles from Green Bay, went to the Whitney shop to have some shingle saws set on collars. He was a practical lumberman, knew every phase of the business and showed marked qualities of leadership in handling men but lacked capital for his undertaking. On explaining this to Mr. Whitney, the latter introduced him to his nephew, Mr. Smith, who decided to investigate the Leathem plant. When about halfway to New Franklin he met Mr. Leathem and his men returning to Green Bay, the latter having refused to work longer without actual pay instead of promises. Mr. Smith acted quickly. He went back to the mill, paid to each man his wages and set them to work. Thus was begun the business relationship of the firm of Leathem & Smith, which continued until the death of Mr. Smith, while the friendship between them was almost that of brothers. They conducted business at New Franklin until 1867 and then removed to Red River, at which time they were joined by Charles Scofield, and for several years the business was conducted under the firm style of Scofield & Company. In 1875 Leathem & Smith came to Sturgeon Bay and built a mill, while Mr. Scofield remained at Red River to carry on the business at that point. Six years later he withdrew from the firm, which then remained Leathem & Smith. From that point forward the firm name figured prominently in connection with the business interests of Sturgeon Bay. They took a large contract to transport ice for the Hammond Packing Company of Hammond, Indiana, manufacturers of artificial ice, who had erected several large ice houses at Sturgeon Bay. The firm carried out their contract and after the ice houses were abandoned used their boats in carrying stone. In those early days one could only cross the bay to Sawyer by ferry, and on account of the ice making such a trip impossible, Mr. Smith was often obliged to remain in Sawyer all night. It was this that determined him to build a bridge and in 1886 he obtained a twenty-five year charter from the county board of supervisors and with Mr. Leathem

and R. B. Kellogg as partners built a bridge at a cost of thirty thousand dollars under the name of the Sturgeon Bay Bridge Company. It was at first only a wagon bridge, but when the railroad was put in, the railroad company built a draw and afterward paid half the expense of maintaining the bridge, together with one hundred and fifty dollars a year to the Sturgeon Bay Bridge Company. On the expiration of its charter November 2, 1911, the city took over the bridge, which has always been operated as a toll bridge.

The firm of Leathem & Smith continued actively in the lumber business but no sawing was done at Sturgeon Bay after 1892. At one time they owned twenty-four thousand acres of fine timber land in Louisiana and valuable timber tracts in Michigan. With the abandonment of the Sturgeon Bay sawmills, Mr. Smith was joined by John Hunsader, who had long been in his employ, in opening a machine shop in Sturgeon Bay, the latter taking practical charge. In 1892 Mr. Smith and Mr. Leathem organized the Leathem & Smith Towing & Wrecking Company and their boats, tugs and equipment for the conduct of the business are now found all over the Great Lakes. In 1894 the Leathem & Smith Lumber Company was incorporated and capitalized for one hundred and seventy thousand dollars. Still another industry which Thomas H. Smith instituted was the development of the Sturgeon Bay stone quarries, in which undertaking he was associated with his son, Leathem D., who had become his father's active assistant in various other lines. Thomas H. Smith remained an active factor in the business up to the time of his demise, although more and more largely relieved of heavy responsibilities and care by his son Leathem.

It was in December, 1874, that Thomas H. Smith wedded Anna Daley and they became parents of seven children: Maude, the wife of Fred Waters, of Shelby, Ohio; Sidney T., who became interested with his father in the ownership of eight sections of land in Fresno county, California, where he raises vast quantities of alfalfa; Winifred, the wife of J. G. Osborne, of Milwaukee; Marietta, the wife of Carl Dreutzer, of Green Bay; Leathem D., of this review; Theresa, the wife of Rufus Kellogg, of Green Bay; and one deceased. Liberal educational advantages were accorded the children and both sons are graduates of the University of Wisconsin. The death of Mr. Smith occurred in February, 1914, and the mother still occupies an attractive home in Sturgeon Bay, where she has long occupied a leading social position.

Leathem D. Smith, after acquiring his early education in the public schools of Sturgeon Bay, entered the University of Wisconsin, in which he completed the civil engineering course with the class of 1909. He then became actively associated with his father in business and as he grew in years and experience his responsibilities were increased and more and more largely he assumed the management and control of the important interests which had been developed. He became the president of the Leathem & Smith Towing & Wrecking Company, also of the Leathem & Smith Lumber Company and later assumed the active management of the extensive stone quarrying interests which were developed. He still continues in these connections. Each interest has been an important element in business activity not only of Sturgeon Bay but of the state. In connection with the quarrying of stone they have secured the most modern machinery and introduced the most advanced methods for blasting and getting out stone for all commercial purposes. This is the only firm in Sturgeon Bay engaged in the

crushed stone business and the capacity of the plant has been more than doubled in the past few years. In connection with the business, which is one of the largest industries of Sturgeon Bay, more than one hundred men are employed. Mr. Smith is also interested in an extensive retail coal business of which he is the manager.

On the 25th of April, 1914, Mr. Smith was married to Miss Genevieve Hayes, of Milwaukee, a daughter of Dr. D. J. Hayes. They are members of St. Joseph's Catholic church and Mr. Smith is connected with the Knights of Columbus. In politics he is a republican but does not seek nor desire office, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his extensive interests, which have continually developed in scope and importance. He is a man of resolute purpose, carrying forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes. Few men are more prominent or more widely known in the enterprising city of Sturgeon Bay, for he has been an important factor in business circles and his prosperity is well deserved, as in him are embraced the characteristics of an unbending integrity, unabating energy and industry that never flags. He is also public-spirited, giving his cooperation to every movement which tends to promote the moral, intellectual and material welfare of the community.

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#### GABRIEL PIERRE.

Gabriel Pierre, a merchant and cheese manufacturer of Brussels township, was born May 29, 1863, in the township in which he still lives, his parents being Frank and Angelique (DeKeyser) Pierre, both of whom were natives of Belgium. The father came to the United States with his parents when a young man, the family taking passage on a sailing vessel in 1854. They were eight weeks in crossing the Atlantic and for a short time the family resided at Alton, Illinois, where the death of the grandfather occurred. The father afterward came with the other members of the family to Door county, Wisconsin, settling in Brussels township, and some time later purchased eighty acres of timber land, which he cleared and developed, becoming in the course of time one of the prosperous farmers of his community. After devoting forty-five years to agricultural pursuits he went to Beaver, Wisconsin, and subsequently to Abrams, Oconto county, where he lived retired until his death which occurred in 1914, when he was seventy-seven years of age. His widow survives him at the age of seventy-five years.

Gabriel Pierre spent his youthful days in Brussels township and the public school system afforded him his early educational opportunities. He attended a business college in Green Bay, Wisconsin, and in 1884 he became associated with the Pierre & Virlee Company, of Brussels, in the capacity of bookkeeper for the grist mill, the store and the cheese factory. He had acquired valuable experience during the fifteen years of his connection with the business and on the expiration of that period he embarked in the implement business on his own account. Succeeding in this undertaking he then added a general store and cheese factory and has since continued active along these lines, being one of the progressive merchants of his part of the county. His business affairs are carefully and wisely managed and success is attending his well defined and carefully directed efforts.

Mr. Pierre is a well known citizen of Door county, within the boundaries of which his entire life has been passed. Here he has so carefully and wisely directed his labors that success in substantial measure has come to him. His progressive methods bring excellent results and his reliability, as well as his enterprise, is acknowledged by all.

Mr. Pierre has been twice married, his first wife being Miss Annie Mersheek, who died in Brussels in 1898, leaving one child, Gabriel. In 1901 Mr. Pierre was united in marriage to Miss Mary Lemence, a daughter of Ferdinand and Hortense (Cravelion) Lemence, who were natives of Belgium and were among the early settlers of Door county. Mrs. Pierre was born in Kewaunee county, Wisconsin, and by her marriage has become the mother of four children, Orbic, Mary, Wilford and Clarence.

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#### E. S. ACKERMAN.

E. S. Ackerman, a well known resident of Nasewaupee township, was born on Christmas day, 1878, in Racine, Wisconsin, and is a son of Otto and Caroline Ackerman. The father was born in Germany and was a blacksmith by trade. In 1882 he was killed in a railroad accident in Racine. The mother was born in Toledo, Ohio, of German ancestry, and following the death of her first husband became the wife of A. H. Simon. By her first marriage she became the mother of three children, of whom our subject is the only survivor, his two brothers having died in infancy, being buried in Racine.

E. S. Ackerman was brought to Door county by his mother when he was but seven years old and was reared here. He was early trained to agricultural pursuits and at length purchased the home farm, which he has since operated on his own account. It is a valuable tract of land lying on section 23, Nasewaupee township, and his well directed efforts are rewarded by a good financial return. In addition to a public school education he took a course at a business college in Green Bay, Wisconsin, and his training has been of value to him not only in the management of his farm but also in the discharge of his duties as secretary of the Cooperative Cheese Factory, which position he held for several years. He was also a stockholder in an elevator for some time. He recognizes the value of cooperative effort among farmers and for some time was president of the Farmers Union, which under his direction accomplished much of value.

Mr. Ackerman was married November 10, 1902, to Miss Mary Gillick, of Nasewaupee township, and they have one son, Leo Edward, born September 28, 1910. Mrs. Ackerman's parents, Phillip and Anna Gillick, were born respectively in Ireland, October 15, 1831, and in Canada. The mother passed away on the 21st of February, 1915, when sixty-four years of age. They were the parents of seventeen children, of whom ten are living, while four died in infancy and three after reaching maturity.

Mr. Ackerman has been one of the leaders in local public affairs of his township, having served as town assessor for two years; town clerk for ten terms; justice of the peace of Nasewaupee township for several years; and at present deputy clerk of the court. He is a staunch supporter of the republican party and

his advice carries weight in party councils. He is a member of the Corpus Christi Catholic church of Sawyer and fraternally is identified with the Catholic Knights of Wisconsin at Sawyer, of which he was secretary for a number of years. He is a valued resident of his township, his efficiency, integrity and agreeable personal qualities all combining to win him the esteem of his fellow citizens.

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#### CHARLES HONOLD.

Charles Honold, who is engaged in general farming and stock raising in Baileys Harbor township, his home being on section 34, was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, March 7, 1867, a son of George and Elizabeth (Schaeffer) Honold. The parents were farming people of Germany, where they spent their entire lives, and there the boyhood and youth of Charles Honold were passed. After his school-days were over he became a shepherd and was thus employed until he reached the age of twenty-four years, when he determined to come to the United States, attracted by the favorable reports which he had heard concerning the business opportunities and conditions in the new world. He made his way westward across the country to Piper City, Illinois, where he was employed as a farm hand until he felt justified in engaging in farming on his own account. He then rented land and remained a resident of Illinois until 1898, when he came to Baileys Harbor, Wisconsin. This section was then all covered with a native growth of forest trees, the woods were very dense and it required much arduous toil to clear the land and develop the property. Mr. Honold purchased eighty acres and to this added from time to time as his financial resources increased until his holdings now aggregate four hundred and forty acres of fine farm land, and he ranks with the prosperous and successful agriculturists of this section of the state. All of this land, with the help of his family, Mr. Honold has cleared and improved. He has erected new buildings upon his place until today he has one of the finest farms in the district. His residence is commodious, thoroughly modern and convenient in every way. He has a water system in the house and barns and his residence is heated by a hot water plant. There is an engine for washing and butter making and in fact he has introduced every modern improvement and facility that will lighten labor and utilize time to the best advantage. He is successfully engaged in general farming, keeps twenty-eight head of milch cows and also devotes considerable attention to the raising of cattle and hogs. His business affairs are most wisely managed and keen discrimination characterizes every effort. He is one of the pioneer farmers of Door county and has done much to develop the community along this line, his example being one which has been followed by others as he has demonstrated the possibilities of successful general farming.

On the 3d of September, 1895, Mr. Honold was united in marriage to Miss Cora Movern, a daughter of Mat and Vina Movern and a native of Piper City, Illinois, where her parents were among the first settlers. To Mr. and Mrs. Honold have been born thirteen children, Laura, Georgia, Charles and Esther, twins, Henry, Bert, Cora, Fred and Freda, twins, August, Willie and Frank, twins, and Martha.

The family is widely known and prominent in this section of Door county.

Mr. Honold ranks with the most progressive business men and his judgment in all things is found discriminating. What he undertakes he accomplishes and in all that he does efficiency characterizes his work. He has ever been actuated by a laudable ambition that has brought good results and, moreover, his record proves that success and an honored name may be won simultaneously.

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### JOHN M. PERRY.

John M. Perry, one of the representative citizens and prominent business men of Sturgeon Bay, is a native of Door county, his birth occurring in Forestville, September 28, 1877. His father, Matthew Perry, was born in Kilboy Abbey, County Tipperary, Ireland, in July, 1836, but during boyhood went to Liverpool, England, in company with his younger brother Richard and after spending a few months in that city sailed for Toronto, Canada, being fifty-seven days upon the water. For two years they were employed as farm hands in the vicinity of Buffalo, New York, and in the spring of 1855 took passage on the steamer Lady Elgin for Chicago. While on this trip they met Major McCormick, one of the first settlers of Algoma, Wisconsin, who told them of the favorable prospects up Wolf river and persuaded them to come to Forestville. The following year they were joined by their brothers, Samuel and John Perry, who later became prominent business men of Algoma. When Matthew Perry landed at Wolf River, now Algoma, there was only a trail to Forestville and no path whatever existed between Forestville and Sturgeon Bay. He and his brother Richard cleared a small patch of land, on which they raised the first potatoes grown in Door county. They built a house upon their land and continued with the improvement and cultivation of their place until the country became involved in civil war, when both enlisted in Company E, Fourteenth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. Hardly had the smoke from Fort Sumter's guns cleared away when Matthew Perry offered his services to his adopted country, enlisting on the 15th of April, 1861, and at the end of his term reenlisted, remaining in the service for four years and two days, as he was mustered out April 17, 1865. With the Army of the Tennessee he took part in the battles of Shiloh, Iuka, Corinth, Raymond, Champion's Hill, Black River Bridge, Kenesaw Mountain, Atlanta, Ezra Church, Lovejoy Station and Bentonville, and was with General Sherman on the memorable march to the sea. He also did provost duty at Mobile, Alabama, and was in the Grand Review at Washington, D. C. After the close of the war Mr. Perry returned to his farm in Forestville township, this county, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1907, when he sold his place and removed to the village of Forestville, which continued to be his home until his death, which occurred December 5, 1915.

In 1867 occurred the marriage of Matthew Perry and Miss Henriette Machinsky, whose father was one of the pioneer settlers of Kewaunee county, Wisconsin. She died on the 12th of March, 1885. The children of the family still living are Samuel and Matthew, business men of Forestville; Edward, portmaster of Forestville; Mrs. Michael Witt, of Forestville township, Miss Elizabeth, of Forestville; and John M., of this review. All of the sons were given good business educations.

John M. Perry attended the public schools of Forestville and took a business



course at Green Bay. He began his business career as a clerk in the store of the L. M. Washburn Company, where he remained for seven years, and the following four years were spent upon the road as a traveling salesman for M. M. Stanton Company of Detroit, Michigan. In March, 1911, he opened an office in Sturgeon Bay and has since engaged in the real estate, insurance and loan business at that place, handling both city and farm property. In 1906 he and his brother Matthew started a clothing and men's furnishing store in Sawyer, but in 1910 moved the business to Forestville, where it is now under the management of the brother, though our subject still owns a half interest in the enterprise. He is also interested in a hardware and furniture establishment at that place, founded in 1905 by himself and brothers Samuel and Edward and is interested in fruit growing in Door county. He is a very enterprising, wide-awake business man and usually carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes.

On the 22d of October, 1902, Mr. Perry married Miss Alice Damkoehler, of Sturgeon Bay, a daughter of Walter L. and Sarah (Gillispie) Damkoehler. Her father was a pioneer farmer of Sevastopol township, Door county. Mr. and Mrs. Perry have four children, namely: Dorothy Alice, Walter Matthew, John William and Edward Lewis. The family attend the Congregational church and Mr. Perry is identified with the Knights of Pythias fraternity. His political support is given to the republican party but he takes no active part in public affairs aside from voting as his extensive business interests claim his undivided attention. Success has attended his well directed efforts and he is today one of the substantial citizens of Sturgeon Bay.

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### JOHN JACOB BARRINGER.

John Jacob Barringer, who was an honored veteran of the Civil war and was a well known hotel proprietor of Fish Creek, passed away in April, 1909, at the age of sixty-nine years. He was born in Germany, May 10, 1840, a son of Jacob J. and Martha (Schultz) Barringer, who were also natives of that country. The father followed the occupation of farming, but at length determined to try his fortune in America, and in 1848 sailed with his family for the new world, settling in Dodge county, Wisconsin, where he took up a homestead. Not a furrow had been turned nor an improvement made upon the land, but with characteristic energy he began to develop the place and in the course of time had transformed the wild tract into an excellent farm, which he continued to cultivate throughout his remaining days. He had reached the age of eighty-six years when called to his final rest and his wife was eighty-two years of age at the time of her demise.

John J. Barringer was a little lad of eight years when he came with his parents to the new world. He acquired the greater part of his education in the schools of Dodge county, but started out to provide for his own support when quite young and thus his educational opportunities were necessarily limited, but in the school of experience he gained many valuable lessons. He was twenty-two years of age, when, in response to the country's call for aid, he enlisted in Door county as a member of Company F, Thirty-second Wisconsin Infantry, with which he served for three years, rendering aid to the Union cause upon many a southern battle-

field. On one occasion he was taken prisoner and held for a short time, but was afterward exchanged.

At the close of the war Mr. Barringer returned to his home in Door county and again settled at Fish Creek. He conducted a store there in partnership with E. S. Minor, of Sturgeon Bay, and later engaged in general merchandising in Egg Harbor until 1882. He then turned to the hotel business, becoming proprietor of the Central Hotel and cafe at Fish Creek, with which he continued until his death. He was well known in this connection and enjoyed a profitable and growing business.

It was in July, 1876, that Mr. Barringer was united in marriage to Miss Josephine La Bombarde, a daughter of Peter and Zoa La Bombarde, who were natives of New York. The father was a farmer by occupation and always resided in the Empire state. Mr. and Mrs. Barringer became the parents of six children, as follows: Martha, the eldest, died in 1901. Cora is at home. Meta became the wife of George Le Claire, who met death by drowning in 1903. She is now residing with her parents. John A. is a resident of Montana. Lawrence I. and Edna also met death by drowning in 1903.

In his political views Mr. Barringer was a republican and in religious faith was a Lutheran, while his family belonged to the Catholic church. He served as town treasurer of Egg Harbor and also as assessor and was ever interested in the political questions and issues of the day. His attention, however, was largely given to his business affairs and the capable management of his interests enabled him to leave his family in comfortable circumstances. His widow is still conducting the hotel and has made it a popular resort among many guests. She is a capable business woman and her energy and enterprise are making the hotel one of the substantial hostelries of this section of the state.

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#### ALPHONSE RENARD.

Alphonse Renard is the owner of a farm of one hundred and twenty acres on section 16, Union township. He was born upon this place, which is situated on Schumacher's Point, on the 3d of August, 1872, his parents being Lambert and Theresa (Detry) Renard. Both parents were natives of Belgium, where they were reared and married, and there the father learned the shoemaker's trade. He came to the United States in 1857 on a sailing vessel which was eight weeks in making the voyage. Later he became a resident of Green Bay and took up his abode on Schumacher's Point. His farm lay along the shore and was all covered with a dense growth of timber. In the midst of the forest he built a log house and at once began to clear away the trees and brush preparatory to planting the fields. Later he erected a more commodious log house and his remaining days were spent upon the home farm, which he transformed into a valuable tract of land. There were many difficulties to be met and many hardships to be endured but he and his family displayed a resolute spirit and with persistent purpose carried on the work until their labors were rewarded with success. The death of the father occurred in 1890, when he had reached the age of sixty-two years, while his widow survived until January 22, 1901, when she, too, passed away on the old homestead.

Alphonse Renard obtained his education in the early schools of the district and remained with his father until the latter's death. He is now the owner of the old home property, which comprises one hundred and twenty acres of good land in Union township. Here he carries on general farming and he has brought his fields to a high state of cultivation. He practices the rotation of crops and utilizes many modern methods to enrich his fields and render them more productive. His labors are bringing him good returns and he is now meeting with a success adequate to his efforts.

In 1899 Mr. Renard was united in marriage to Miss Elsie Delwich, a daughter of Joseph and Josephine (Joke) Delwich, who were natives of Belgium and were among the early settlers of Union township, Door county. Mrs. Renard was born in Union township and by her marriage became the mother of seven children, Ben, Emily, Henry, Josie, Lambert, Gilbert and Arthur.

Mr. and Mrs. Renard are widely and favorably known in this locality and have the goodwill and confidence of those with whom they have been associated. They have spent their entire lives in Union township and represent two of the old pioneer families, to whom the county owes much for their participation in the work of development and improvement.

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#### KARL WOLZIEN.

Karl Wolzien has made excellent improvements on his farm of one hundred and twenty acres on section 34, Egg Harbor township, and has never had occasion to regret following farming as his life's work for he has gained gratifying success. His birth occurred in Germany, May 3, 1859, and his parents were Henry and Hannah (Hegeman) Wolzien. The father was a laborer in that country and remained there until a few years before his death, when he came to America and made his home with our subject, passing away in April, 1911. He had long survived his wife, who died in Germany in 1877.

Karl Wolzien received a good education in his native country and remained there until he was twenty-six years old, when in 1885 he came to America. He at once came to Door county, Wisconsin, and after working in a sawmill for seven years, he bought his present place of one hundred and twenty acres on section 34, Egg Harbor township. He himself cleared ninety acres of that tract and as soon as possible brought the land under cultivation. He has erected fine buildings well adapted to their purposes and his farm is today one of the best in this locality. He has conserved the fertility of the soil and annually harvests good crops. He also pays a good deal of attention to dairying and milks about twenty grade Swiss cows. Hard work and good management have enabled him to gain a gratifying measure of success.

Mr. Wolzien was married in October, 1884, to Miss Augusta Hanaman, a daughter of John and Minnie Hanaman. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Wolzien: Paul R. B., who is farming with his father; Otto, who is a blacksmith at Carlsville, Egg Harbor township; and Karl, who is the butter-maker at the creamery in Black Creek.

Mr. Wolzien supports the candidates and measures of the democratic party at

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the polls and is now serving as school treasurer. He has always been decidedly interested in the welfare of the schools and in fact in everything that vitally affects the public good. He is a consistent member of the Lutheran church and in all relations of life has conformed his life to high moral standards.

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### MATHIAS JONAS.

Mathias Jonas, who is living on section 19, Jacksonport township, has developed a fine farm, which is the visible evidence of his life of well directed energy and thrift. His memory compasses the period when many of the homes of the settlers were log cabins, and he has lived to see remarkable changes as the work of progress and improvement has been carried forward. He was born in Germany, October 27, 1856, and is a son of Mathias and Angeline Jonas, who were farming people of that country, cultivating a small tract of land. They had a family of six children, of whom Mathias is the youngest. The parents never came to the United States and all of their children remained in Germany with the exception of Mathias and his sister Anna, who is now the widow of A. G. Seeley, of Hartford, Wisconsin.

Mathias Jonas spent the first twenty-five years of his life in his native country and then severed home ties, preparatory to trying his fortune in the new world. He crossed the Atlantic alone and made his way to Hartford, Wisconsin, while the same fall he removed to Washington island, where afterward he was employed in cutting cord wood for three years. In 1884 he became a resident of Jacksonport township, and his savings, which represented several years of unremitting industry and unabating economy, enabled him to purchase the south half of the northwest quarter of section 19, which was a wild timber tract. He built thereon a log house and with characteristic energy began to clear and improve the land, which he has converted into productive fields. He has also added to his holdings by the purchase of a forty acre tract and now has a good farm of one hundred and twenty acres, well improved and brought under the highest state of cultivation.

On the 15th of July, 1883, Mr. Jonas was married to Miss Christina Jacobson, a daughter of Jacob and Christina Jacobson, who were natives of Schleswig, Germany, and became pioneer settlers of Washington island, where they passed away and were laid to rest. In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Jonas are four children, namely: Mary, the wife of Christ Wagner, of Jacksonport township; Anna, the wife of Richard Peil, of Baileys Harbor; Christina, the wife of Harry Ostran of Sevastopol township; and Fred, who is at home and is operating the farm.

Reared in the Lutheran faith, Mr. Jonas has always been loyal to the church in which he holds membership. His study of the political issues and questions of the day has led him to give his support to the republican party, and his fellow townsmen have recognized his ability in calling him to several local offices. For three years he served as a member of the town board of supervisors, for two years was chairman of the board and for the same length of time was township assessor. The cause of education has always received his thoughtful attention



MR. AND MRS. MATHIAS JONAS



and he has done effective work for the schools as a member of the school board for a number of years. He has never regretted his determination to come to the new world, for in this land he found good opportunities and realized that he could win success here in a shorter time than he could have done in his native country. He has worked diligently and is now the possessor of a comfortable competence, which is the direct outcome of his labors.

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### JOHN SIMON.

Many hardships have marked the path of John Simon as he has pushed forward to the goal of success but he is now in possession of a comfortable competence that has come to him as the reward of his persistency of purpose and indefatigable energy. He is the owner of two hundred and forty acres of land, but his fine farm property bears little resemblance to the undeveloped tract of eighty acres, covered with heavy timber, that he acquired in Egg Harbor township when twenty-six years of age. His home is now in Jacksonport township and he is justly classed with its representative agriculturists.

Mr. Simon was born in Ozaukee county, Wisconsin, May 18, 1850, a son of Peter Joseph and Magdalene (Kontzan) Simon, who were natives of Germany but came to the new world in early life and were married in Wisconsin in the first half of the nineteenth century. They removed from Ozaukee to Door county in 1856 and the father purchased one hundred and sixty acres of timber land upon which hardly a tree had been cut, while there was no sign of a building. He soon erected a log house and began the arduous task of clearing the place, that he might transform it into productive fields. He continued the work of general farming and added many improvements, making his home thereon until his demise. He was also active and prominent in public affairs and it was he that gave the township of Sevastopol its name. He served as assessor for a number of years and he cooperated in many movements that contributed to the substantial development and progress of the district in which he lived. When death called him he was laid to rest in the Catholic cemetery in section 33, Sevastopol township, while the grave of his wife was made in Institute cemetery. They were the parents of eleven children, of whom six are still living, namely: John; Catherine, the wife of L. Jordan, of Sevastopol township; Jacob and Martin, who are living in the same township; John Peter, whose home is in Ensign, Michigan; and Joseph, living at Rapid River, Michigan. Three of the children died in infancy, while Anna became the wife of John Peter Weber, of Sevastopol township and has passed away.

The educational opportunities of John Simon were extremely limited, although at times he attended the pioneer schools for brief periods until he reached the age of thirteen. He had no opportunity of pursuing his studies after that for he was compelled to give his entire attention to farm work, being thus employed by his father and by others until he reached the age of twenty-six. Long before the spirit of ambition awakened in him and he resolved that he would become a farm owner, so that he carefully saved his earnings and about 1876 made his first investment in land, purchasing the east half of the northeast quarter

and the north half of the southeast quarter of section 36. It was all a tract of wild timber and he had to cut a road for five miles in order to get to his place. With characteristic energy, however, he began to clear and improve the property, which still constitutes a part of his present farm although his home now stands on the west half of the northwest quarter of section 31, Jacksonport township, which he has added to his original purchase, so that two hundred and forty acres are now comprised within the borders of his place. His farm is the proof of his diligence and determination, for he started out in life empty handed. He has met hardships, faced privations and overcome difficulties and obstacles. In a word he has wrested fortune from the hand of fate and is now one of the prosperous agriculturists of Door county.

On the 20th of November, 1876, Mr. Simon was united in marriage to Miss Martha Cassils, a daughter of William and Mary Cassils, who were natives of Ireland, where they were reared and married. On crossing the Atlantic they took up their abode in Grey county, Ontario, Canada, where their remaining days were passed, after which they were laid to rest there. Mr. and Mrs. Simon have become the parents of six children: Christopher, who is now living in Saskatchewan; Mary, the wife of John Maynard, of Alberta, Canada; Anna, the wife of Herman Pape, of Gardner, North Dakota; Harriet, the wife of Henry de Jardien, of Alkabo, North Dakota; Charlotte, the wife of George Bocek, of Merrifield, Saskatchewan; and William John, who wedded Josephine Johnson, a daughter of August and Mary (Anderson) Johnson, of Jacksonport township. William J. Simon is farming the home place with his father. To him and his wife has been born a son, Russell.

In politics Mr. Simon maintains an independent course, supporting the candidate rather than the party. He has lived a quiet life, concentrating his efforts and attention upon agricultural pursuits, and it has been by reason of his close application and earnest work that he has gained the creditable place which he now occupies as a substantial farmer of his district.

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#### ALBERT M. CARMODY.

That Door county is an attractive place of residence and that it furnishes to its citizens excellent opportunities along many lines is indicated in the fact that a large number of its native citizens have remained within its borders. To this class belongs Albert M. Carmody, who was born in Egg Harbor, in October, 1882, and is a son of John T. and Mary (O'Keffe) Carmody, who were natives of Ireland. The father was brought to America by his parents when but seven years of age, the family home being established near Manitowoc, Wisconsin, where he was reared and acquired his education as a public school pupil. He afterward took up the occupation of farming which he followed for a long period. Prior to the Civil war he removed to this county, bought land in Egg Harbor which he developed and cultivated, continuing to operate his farm until 1912, when he retired, and now makes his home with his children, his wife having passed away on the 25th of March, 1911.

Albert M. Carmody spent the days of his boyhood and youth under the par-



ental roof and attended school in his native township. As soon as he was old enough he began to work in the fields and continued to assist his father until he reached his majority. He then started out to earn his own living and for some time engaged in threshing in Dakota, after which he returned to Door county and again took up threshing here. He was thus employed until 1909, when he purchased his present place of eighty acres on section 22, Egg Harbor township. He at once set about clearing and improving the land and his labors have wrought a marked transformation in the appearance of the place, which is now an attractive farm. The cultivated fields give indication of the care and labor bestowed upon them by the owner who is both practical and progressive in his methods. He not only raises good crops, but is also engaged in the dairying business and for this purpose keeps full blooded Holstein cattle, milking eleven cows.

On the 20th of June, 1907, Mr. Carmody was united in marriage to Miss Mary Simonar, a daughter of Frank and Johannah (Conrad) Simonar, who were pioneer settlers of Door county, the father being still actively engaged in farming in Egg Harbor township. To Mr. and Mrs. Carmody have been born five children: Gerald, Peter, Meldon, Marie and Medonna. The religious faith of the family is that of the Catholic church, while in political belief Mr. Carmody is a democrat. He gives stalwart support to his party and he is interested in all matters of public-spirited citizenship.

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#### HARRY PETERSON.

For thirty years Harry Peterson has been closely associated with farming interests of Baileys Harbor township and he is today one of the representative young agriculturists of his locality. He was born on the old home farm December 20, 1890, a son of Robert and Christine (Larson) Peterson. The father was born in Denmark, July 26, 1860, a son of Hans and Kirsten (Hemsdaughters) Peterson, who spent their entire lives in Denmark, where they were well known farming people. Robert Peterson was reared and educated in Denmark and after his textbooks were put aside worked in a sawmill there until he reached the age of twenty years, when he bade adieu to friends and native land and sailed for America. On reaching the shores of the new world he at once made his way across the country and took up his abode in Racine, Wisconsin, where he worked for one year as a farm hand. He then went to Dakota, where he was employed in the harvest fields through the summer months and in the lumber woods through the winter seasons. In 1887 he became a resident of Baileys Harbor township, Door county, and purchased a farm of one hundred and twenty acres which he cleared and developed. He erected thereon fine buildings and added many modern improvements, dividing his farm into fields of convenient size by well kept fences. Everything about the place indicates care and supervision, for he is most progressive in all that he undertakes.

In 1890 Robert Peterson was united in marriage to Miss Christine Larson, a daughter of Peter Larson and a native of Denmark. She came to the United States in 1889 and the following year was married. She has become the mother of five children, Harry, Millie, Louie, Robert and Eva.

Harry Peterson spent his boyhood days upon the old homestead farm in Baileys Harbor township and the public school system afforded him his educational privileges. The occupation to which he was reared he has made his life work, finding it an agreeable pursuit and one which returns to him a gratifying annual income. He now owns a fine farm and is surrounded by the evidences of affluence and also of good taste. In his farm work he is thoroughly reliable and energetic and is winning a very substantial measure of success.

In 1915 Harry Peterson was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Krause, a daughter of Emil Krause. Mrs. Peterson was born at Fish Creek, Wisconsin, while her parents were natives of Germany and were among the early settlers of Fish Creek, Door county. To Mr. and Mrs. Peterson has been born one child, Harold. The parents are well known in social circles and their own home is the abode of a warm-hearted hospitality which is greatly enjoyed by their many friends. Mr. Peterson has spent his entire life in Baileys Harbor township and that his record has ever been an honorable one is indicated in the fact many of his staunchest friends are those who have known him from his boyhood to the present time.

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#### CONRAD R. GUTH.

Conrad R. Guth, proprietor of an excellent general store located in Kolberg, Brussels township, also has other important interests, as he owns one of the largest creameries and cheese factories in the county. He was born in Forestville, November 24, 1873, a son of Charles and Albertina (Kay) Guth, both of whom are natives of Germany. The father learned the cabinetmaker's trade in that country, where he remained until he had reached young manhood, when he accompanied his mother, brother and sisters to the United States. He worked at cabinetmaking in Manitowoc, Wisconsin, for some time and also engaged in making caskets there. In 1872 he purchased eighty acres of land in Forestville township, Door county, and erected upon his place the first frame house built in that locality. His land was heavily timbered when it came into his possession, but in time he cleared it and converted it into productive fields. At length he removed to Kolberg, where he built an attractive residence, and there he and his wife are now residing at the ages of seventy-eight and sixty-eight years respectively. In religious faith they are Lutherans.

Conrad R. Guth passed the days of his boyhood and youth upon the home farm in Forestville township and received the usual education of the period in the district schools. For some time he was employed upon the farm of John Goettelman near Sawyer and then spent a year in a sawmill at Menominee, Michigan. In 1893 he established a cheese factory and subsequently erected a creamery on land included in the eighty acre farm which his father had purchased at Kolberg. Still later he established a general store there and in 1903 erected his present building, which is well adapted to the needs of the business. He carries the largest stock found in any country store in the county and the high standard maintained in his merchandise and his well known reliability have resulted in the building up of a large patronage. In 1910 he erected a new

creamery, the largest in the county, and he also still engages in the manufacture of cheese. Mr. Guth was one of the organizers of the bank of Forestville in 1912 and during the subsequent five years Mr. Guth has served as a director. The enterprises which he controls are important factors in the upbuilding of his locality and his energy and business ability are generally recognized.

In August, 1893, Mr. Guth was united in marriage to Miss Theresa Grundemann, a daughter of August and Bertha Grundemann and a native of Ahna-pee township Kewaunee county. Her parents were German born but were numbered among the early settlers of Clay Banks township, Door county. Later they removed to Brussels township, where the father cleared and developed an excellent farm. He passed away upon that place but is survived by his widow, who resides with a son in Forestville township. To the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Guth have been born five children, Esther, Ervin, Alfred, Leonard and Harold.

Mr. Guth has been too much occupied with his business interests to give much time to political activity, but he has always kept well informed on the questions and issues of the day and has exercised his right of franchise in support of the candidates and measures of the republican party. His life has measured up to high ethical standards and he well merits the high esteem in which he is held.

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#### HENRY HERLACHE.

Throughout his entire life Henry Herlache has been a resident of Gardner township, where he is now successfully engaged in dairying and in general farming. He was born September 4, 1875, a son of Clem and Delphine Herlache, who are mentioned elsewhere in this work in connection with the sketch of Jule Herlache. At the usual age he became a public school pupil, mastering the branches of learning taught in the district schools near his father's home. He devoted the winter months to school work and in the summer seasons worked with his father upon the home farm. He continued to assist in the cultivation and development of the fields until he reached his majority, when he received forty acres of land from his father. He afterward purchased a tract of twenty acres and still later a tract of forty and has thus become the owner of a good farm of considerable size. He has always devoted his time and energies to general farming and is also engaged in dairying. His business interests are carefully conducted and sound judgment and enterprise characterize his work in every particular. He is, moreover, a stockholder in the telephone company and a stockholder in the cheese factory and through his latter connection is thus identified with one of the important industries of this section of the state.

On April 23, 1898, Mr. Herlache was united in marriage to Miss Ida Lesuisse, of Gardner township, a daughter of Felix Lesuisse. They have become the parents of two children: Palmer, born in 1901; and Norman, in 1908.

Mr. Herlache belongs to the Spiritualist church of Gardner. His political allegiance is given to the republican party, of which he has been a stalwart advocate since reaching adult age. He served for one year as supervisor and for

fifteen years as school treasurer, but is not an active politician in the sense of office seeking, preferring to concentrate his time, thought and attention upon his business affairs, and his well directed energy is gaining for him a substantial measure of success.

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#### SOLON BIRMINGHAM.

Solon Birmingham, who passed away upon his home farm in Sevastopol township, March 6, 1913, at an advanced age, was during his active life a successful farmer and was entitled to honor as a veteran of the Civil war. He was born in the valley of the Black river, in Jefferson county, New York, January 27, 1837, and was a son of Richard and Pluma (Stone) Birmingham. The father was born in New York state, but when a boy of nine years secured nine cents, starting out ostensibly to buy a pitcher of milk. However, after reaching the street he threw the pitcher away, went to the harbor and secured work as a waiter on board a ship bound for Canada. After reaching the new world he was connected with the British army at Ogdensburg, New York, for some time but later, with a few companions, he went on the ice to Morristown, New York, whence he made his way to Antwerp, that state. Mr. Birmingham turned his attention to farming and purchased land situated on the Russell turnpike. After his removal to that locality he married Miss Pluma Stone, who was born in Massachusetts. They became the parents of nine children.

Solon Birmingham received the somewhat limited education afforded by the early schools of his native county and after putting aside his textbooks worked for his father until he was twenty-two years old, when his marriage occurred. Three years later, or in 1862, he put aside all personal considerations and enlisted in Company K of the Thirty-fifth New York militia. He was first under fire at Cold Harbor, where the engagement lasted for seven days, and also participated in the fighting at Petersburg and Fisher Hill, in the engagement below Winchester, which occasioned Sheridan's famous ride, and in the battle of Bermuda Hundred on the 2d of April, 1865, in which he was captured. He was sent to Libby prison and later was transferred to Appomattox, where he was released following the surrender of Lee's army. He was then sent to Petersburg, where for three months he was engaged in issuing rations to the people residing there. He next went to Hart Island, where he was honorably discharged in September, 1865.

After his return from the war Mr. Birmingham remained in New York for a number of years, but following the death of his wife in 1878 he came west to Door county, Wisconsin, where for a time he engaged in lumbering, and in 1879 he purchased land in Sevastopol township. He at once took up his residence upon his farm and during the three decades or more which intervened before his death he lived continuously upon that place, which he brought to a high state of development. For many years he industriously cultivated his fields and looked after his stock but for some time before his death lived practically retired, enjoying a period of leisure to which he was well entitled. He passed away on the 6th of March, 1913, and his demise was the occasion of widespread regret.

Mr. Birmingham was married while living in New York to Miss Jane Sanctum,

who was a native of Jefferson county, that state, and passed away in 1878, leaving a daughter, Hattie, now Mrs. Albert Green, of Carthage, New York. On the 2d of June, 1880, Mr. Birmingham was united in marriage in Sevastopol township to Mrs. Angeline Holmes, who was born in Cedar Grove, Sheboygan county, Wisconsin, July 5, 1850, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Will Rosson, both natives of Canada. She was educated in the common schools of Wisconsin, and on the 29th of July, 1867, when seventeen years old, married Charles Holmes, whose birth occurred in Canada, July 8, 1838. On first coming to Door county Mr. Holmes engaged in fishing for a Mr. Clark but later purchased a farm and turned his attention to its operation. He passed away August 26, 1879, and was buried in Bayside cemetery at Sturgeon Bay. In politics he was a staunch standpat republican. To Mr. and Mrs. Holmes were born the following children: Charles, whose birth occurred January 4, 1870; Lottie, who died in youth; Frank, who was born February 21, 1874, and now resides in Mountain, Michigan; Clara, the wife of Louie Fritzler, of Sturgeon Bay; and Tillie, who became the wife of Peter Peters but is now deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Birmingham were born three children; Bertrand, who was born July 9, 1884, and is now a resident of Sturgeon Bay; Mabel, who was born March 15, 1891, and married William Johnson, of Milwaukee; and Lura, who was born July 17, 1894, and is at home.

Mr. Birmingham was a staunch adherent of the republican party and from the time that he cast his first presidential vote for Lincoln until his death he never failed to support the candidates of his party by his ballot. The same recognition of the obligations of citizenship that led him to offer his services to his country in the Civil war prompted him to further in every way possible the good of his community in days of peace. He was a communicant of the Episcopal church and his life in all its relations conformed to high moral teachings. Mrs. Birmingham is a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church and her influence is always on the side of right and justice. She came to this county when living here was attended with all of the usual inconveniences of the frontier district and she performed faithfully and well the many and arduous duties that fell to the lot of the pioneer wife and mother.

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#### FABIAN REINCE.

Fabian Reince, cashier of the State Bank of Maplewood, although still in the twenties has gained recognition as a man of keen business insight and of unusual discrimination. He was born at Rosiere, Brussels township, Door county, August 30, 1890, and is a son of Peter and Emerence (Gerard) Reince. The father was born in Rosiere but his father, Alexander Reince, was a native of Perwey, Province of Brabant, Belgium, whence he crossed the Atlantic to the United States in a sailing vessel in the '50s. From New York city he made his way by the Great Lakes to Green Bay, Wisconsin, and thence came to Door county. He took up eighty acres of government land at Rosiere and after clearing his farm devoted his time to the raising of the usual crops. For a number of years after his arrival in the county there were more Indians to be seen than white men and in going to Green Bay to market it was necessary to follow trails through the

woods as there were no roads. He passed away in this county as did his wife, whom he married in Belgium. Peter Reince received his education in Casco and from his early boyhood until his father's death aided the latter in the operation of the home farm. At length he came into possession of the place and carried on agricultural pursuits on his own account until he was called by death on the 22d of December, 1910, when forty-seven years old. His wife died at the early age of twenty-eight years in 1893.

Fabian Reince was reared under the parental roof and received good educational advantages, attending the high school at Algoma and a business college at Green Bay. For one year he was employed as bookkeeper for the Pierre Virlee Company of Brussels, this county, but at the end of that time, his father having passed away, he took charge of the home farm. He only remained on that place a year, however, and then engaged in the hotel and liquor business at Rosiere for two years. Upon disposing of his interests in that connection he purchased the general merchandise stock of Gabe Pierre at Brussels and for three years owned and managed that store and also conducted a cheese factory. Since 1916, however, he has filled the important position of cashier of the State Bank of Maplewood, in which he is also a heavy stockholder. The institution was opened for business on the 20th of October, 1916, the other officers are as follows: Joseph Ullsperger, president; John Dettman, who is a director and is temporarily filling the office of vice president made vacant by the death of Anton Schlise; and Ferdinand Babler, who is likewise a vice president. In addition to the officers the following men are directors: John Feller, Dr. J. C. Murphy and Louis Neuville.

On the 20th of September, 1910, Mr. Reince was united in marriage to Miss Josephine Charles, a daughter of August and Marjorie (Bero) Charles and a native of Rosiere. The parents, who are living retired in Brussels after many years devoted to agricultural pursuits, were born in Belgium. To Mr. and Mrs. Reince have been born five children, namely: Laura, Lillian, Peter, Willard and Marvin.

Mr. Reince has confined his activity in public affairs to the exercise of his right of franchise. Among his salient characteristics are industry, energy and the ability to inspire confidence in others, and he has met with success in all that he has undertaken. Under his management the bank of Maplewood has prospered and its business is still growing steadily.

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#### OTTO R. C. VOEKS.

Otto R. C. Voeks, who is engaged in cheese manufacturing on section 8, Sevastopol township, was born December 23, 1890, in Valmy, a little town which was established by his father in Sevastopol township. His parents were William and Lena Voeks, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this work.

After acquiring a district school education Otto R. C. Voeks went to Madison, Wisconsin, at the age of nineteen years, and completed a course in cheese making in the State University, gaining expert scientific knowledge concerning that business. He then returned home and established a factory at Valmy, which was owned by his father. This was the first cheese factory in the county to operate



OTTO R. C. VOEKS





throughout the year and by successfully managing his business he induced others to follow his example, as it was evident that cheese making can be made a source of income the year round and that it leads to building up fine dairy herds and to greater fertilization of the soil. Thus more factories were established and more money paid to dairy men, thereby promoting the general prosperity of the county. The efforts of Mr. Voeks have been of direct benefit to the farmers, who have taken up dairying on a large scale until it has been developed into one of the most important industries of this section of the state. Mr. Voeks has always stood for progress and improvement in connection with dairying and all kindred interests. It was he who promoted the first cow testing association in Door county, an organization which became cooperative and which has led to the development of high standards in all the herds, resulting in more milk for the same amount of feed and in consequence a larger amount of milk used in cheese making. Efficiency has been his watchword at all times. He has studied the question from every possible standpoint and has applied his knowledge to the acquirement of results. He continued to operate his father's factory for five years and during the second year he built another factory nearby, which he conducted for a year and then sold. Immediately, however, he bought the cheese factory which he is now operating and nearby he erected a building and established a grocery store. He has further extended the scope of his activities by building, at a recent date, a factory in the north part of the peninsula, which he also operates. He is frequently consulted concerning cheese manufacturing and his assistance has been freely given in starting other factories whereby the industry has been greatly developed and the wealth of the county largely promoted.

On the 22d of October, 1912, Mr. Voeks was married to Miss Ella Henschel, a daughter of L. F. and Elizabeth (Arnold) Henschel. They have two children: Mildred and Ruby. Mr. Voeks holds membership in the Loyal Order of Moose and in religious faith is a German Lutheran. His life has been well spent and has been attended with excellent results. He has won his success by hard work and careful study and has been quick to utilize the most progressive methods. His judgment enables him to readily discriminate between the essential and the nonessential in business affairs, and what he has undertaken he has accomplished. He has not only won prosperity for himself but deserves public gratitude for what he has accomplished as a factor in the development of dairying, farming and cheese manufacturing in Door county.

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#### JACOB BAVERY.

Among the substantial and valued residents of Egg Harbor township is Jacob Bavery, who follows farming on section 22. He was born in Norway, October 5, 1852, and is a son of Rasmus and Gertrude (Larson) Bavery, who were also natives of Norway. The father was a farmer by occupation and spent his entire life in the land of the midnight sun. He passed away there in 1857, while his wife long survived, her life record comprising the years to 1905.

Jacob Bavery was reared and educated in Norway, where he was employed as

a farm hand until 1880, when he came to the new world, making his way direct to Door county. He spent a year in the government employ in work on the Sturgeon Bay canal and continued to work out for six years, during which period he carefully saved his earnings until his industry and economy had brought him sufficient capital to enable him to purchase one hundred acres of land on section 22, Egg Harbor township. There was not a settler in his section of the county at the time and he faced all the hardships of pioneer life with the arduous task of developing a new farm. This was covered with a growth of forest trees and brush, which he at once began to clear away and he built a log cabin, which is still in a state of good preservation. He has cleared eighty acres of his place and has erected thereon modern buildings, having now one of the best improved farms in the county, attractive in its broad fields, its well kept fences, its modern machinery and its good buildings. An air of thrift pervades the place and progressiveness has marked his work at all times. He raises high grade stock and milks about ten cows.

In June, 1883, Mr. Bavery was married to Miss Mary Anderson, a native of Norway. Mr. and Mrs. Bavery have become parents of seven children, Ingeborg, Emily, Rudolph, Gertie, Etta, Eddie and Henry. The religious faith of the family is that of the Lutheran church and in political belief Mr. Bavery is a republican. He has served for three years as school director and is interested in all that pertains to the progress and upbuilding of the district in which he resides. It was a fortunate step for him when he decided to come to the new world. He did not make the mistake of believing that success was to be had for the asking and he realized that industry will always win advancement, so he put forth every effort to gain a start, and since acquiring his farm he has steadily advanced on the highroad of prosperity.

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#### ADAM NORMAN DIER.

Adam Norman Dier, of Sturgeon Bay, who since 1891 has filled the position of superintendent of the canal, was born February 12, 1861, in New York. He attended the common schools and a business college and in the school of experience has learned many valuable lessons, at times difficult lessons, but always those from which he gained valuable knowledge, knowledge that has been of great benefit to him in later years. Earnest toil fell to his lot when he was yet a boy. Between the ages of fifteen and twenty-one years he worked in camps and saw-mills. He afterward took up the profession of teaching, which he followed for two years in Door county, and later he became a telegrapher. On the 19th of August, 1887, he came to Sturgeon Bay to accept the position of bookkeeper and collector at the canal and his ability won him promotion to the position of superintendent on the 1st of July, 1891. He has now occupied this position for more than a quarter of a century and the record which he has made is a most creditable one. To it he has given his entire thought and attention. On the 3d of April, 1893, he was elected clerk of the city of Sturgeon Bay, but served at only three council meetings, after which he resigned as he felt that he was not able to give the work the attention it required, all of his time being taken up with his duties

as superintendent of the canal. This was characteristic of the man. Ability and efficiency have been manifest in all that he has done and made him a most capable official in his present position. He had financial interests for a time in connection with the Merchants Exchange Bank, of which he was a director for ten years.

On the 4th of February, 1903, in Sevastopol, Wisconsin, Mr. Dier was united in marriage to Miss Harriett Maples, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Maples. Fraternally Mr. Dier is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias and the Ancient Order of United Workmen and he is also a member of the Twenty Club. He has attractive social qualities which render him popular and the circle of his friends is constantly increasing as the circle of acquaintance broadens.

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#### ALBERT H. SHERWOOD.

Albert H. Sherwood, pleasantly located on section 31, Jacksonport township, has passed the eightieth milestone on life's journey. An investigation into his career shows that he can look back over a past with little to regret. His has been an active and useful life and his course has been marked at all times by loyalty in citizenship, manifest particularly at the time of the Civil war, when he joined the boys in blue in defense of the Stars and Stripes.

Mr. Sherwood was born at Lockport, Niagara county, New York, November 15, 1836, and is a son of William and Rhoda (Smith) Sherwood, who were natives of England and whose family numbered sixteen children. Of these the only one now living is Albert H. Sherwood, ten of the number having died in childhood. After the death of the father the mother came to Wisconsin, settling at Sturgeon Bay, where Albert H. Sherwood made a home for her and his sisters, Alice, Priscilla, Eliza and Nancy. Of these Alice later married and removed to Ohio; Priscilla became the wife of Dan Stephenson of Little Sturgeon Bay; Eliza married and lives in Lockport, New York; and Nancy became the wife of John Falk of Sturgeon Bay. The other member of the family, Harriet, married and became a resident of Detroit, Michigan. The mother married a second time, becoming the wife of Sandy Templeton, of Sturgeon Bay, and when death called her she was laid to rest in Bayside cemetery.

Albert H. Sherwood pursued his education in the common schools of New York, attending the same school with Grover Cleveland, until he reached the age of sixteen. Hearing that Milwaukee was experiencing a boom he made his way to that city when eighteen years of age, but remained there for only a short time, after which he went to Green Bay by rail and thence proceeded to Door county, making the journey on foot over the old Indian trail. This was then one of the pioneer districts of the middle west. He worked in the lumber woods and in the sawmills and later, when the land was placed upon the market, he began buying and clearing timber tracts. At one time he owned over four hundred acres. His business affairs were ever carefully and wisely managed and his judicious investments made him the owner of valuable property. Mr. Sherwood continued active in business until about the outbreak of the Civil war, when he responded to the country's call for troops, enlisting as a member of Company H, Twelfth Wisconsin

Infantry. He saw active service throughout the period of hostilities under Generals Grant, McPherson and Sherman, and participated in a number of the most important campaigns. He was on the firing line in several hotly contested battles and was ever a loyal soldier, returning to his home with a most creditable military record.

After the close of the war Mr. Sherwood took up the task of clearing land in order to get the timber and later he allowed a part of this land to revert to the county, for it was difficult to clear enough to farm. At length he traded some of his property, including his home in Sturgeon Bay, for one hundred and twenty acres on section 31, Jacksonport township, and an adjoining tract of two hundred acres. He cleared and developed the tract on the northeast quarter of section 31, and there followed farming for a few years. Later he returned to Sturgeon Bay, where he resided for about five years, after which he bought back the old town property, which he had previously owned, and on which he has since made his home.

Mr. Sherwood was about forty years of age when he was united in marriage to Miss Iantha Thompson, of Clay Banks township, whose father, Thomas Thompson, was an early settler there. Mr. and Mrs. Sherwood became the parents of nine children, of whom three died in infancy, the others being; Iphus, who is cultivating the home farm; Raphael, who is living at Severtville, Alberta, Canada; Clayton, who is in Mesa, Idaho; Lester, at home; Vivian, the wife of Peter Beller of Jacksonport township; and Arabella, at home. The wife and mother passed away August 23, 1905, and was laid to rest in the Bayside cemetery.

Mr. Sherwood has never been an office seeker but has always been a stalwart republican, standing loyally by the party which was the defense of the Union during the dark days of the Civil war and which has ever been the party of reform and progress. Fraternally he is connected with the Grand Army of the Republic and has thus maintained pleasant associations with his old army comrades. He is now one of the venerable and highly respected citizens of Door county whose life record at all times has been most creditable and should serve as an inspiration to others, showing what may be accomplished by determined purpose.

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### BEN JOHNSON.

Ben Johnson, proprietor of Hotel Washington, a well known hostelry of Detroit Harbor, was born in Iceland, August 10, 1875. His father, John T. Harhallson, who was a carpenter by trade, came to Door county, Wisconsin, from his native country with his family in 1887. He bought forty acres of land, which he cleared and engaged in cultivating for a number of years, although during the early part of his residence in this county he followed his trade. He survives, but his wife, who bore the maiden name of Thorun Gisladatter, died in 1908. To them were born six children, namely: Augusta, who was married in Chicago to Igar Frederickson and is now living in Iceland; Magnus, who is residing on Washington island; Gisli, who was educated for the ministry in Reykjavik and is now pastor of a church there; Thomas; Ben; and Dora, the wife of Oscar Nichol, of Washington island.

Ben Johnson received the greater part of his education in Iceland, as he was twelve years of age at the time the family removed to America. In 1893 he began sailing on the Great Lakes and after being employed for a considerable period on schooners he shipped on steam freighters. In 1904 he turned his attention to other interests, erecting the Washington Hotel and two cottages on the bay shore at Detroit Harbor. Both the hotel and the cottages are well equipped and the business is conducted on the principle of doing everything possible to contribute to the comfort of the guests. Mr. Johnson is also a stockholder in the creamery company and is a director in the telephone company and in the Home Mutual Fire Insurance Company.

On the 15th of December, 1900, at Cleveland, Ohio, occurred the marriage of Mr. Johnson and Miss Evelyn Gislason. They lost three children in infancy and have five children who survive, namely: Lillian Jeanette, Estella May, Ray Wilber, Thorun Augusta and John Willard.

Mr. Johnson endorses the principles of the republican party. He served for two years as supervisor and for one year as township clerk and made a highly creditable record in both capacities. He takes an active interest in the work of the Lutheran church, to which he belongs, and his integrity has ever been above questions. He has displayed enterprise, initiative and sound judgment in the development of his own business interests and also in his support of projects for the upbuilding of his town and county.

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#### GEORGE MEYER.

While hardships and difficulties have beset the path of George Meyer at various points in his career, he has steadily and persistently pursued his way and is now one of the prosperous farmers of Baileys Harbor township. He was born in Hanover, Germany, July 12, 1846, a son of Gerdan and Rachel (Heypin) Meyer. The father was a farmer by occupation and never came to the United States.

George Meyer spent his boyhood and youth in his native country and pursued his education in the public schools until he was fourteen years of age, when he began sailing from Bremen and for about nine years made trips on ocean vessels to all parts of the world. At length he left his ship in New York, being no longer a member of the crew of the Hessel, on which he had sailed. This was in 1866 and soon afterward he found employment on Long Island, where he remained for a short time. Later he again sailed from New York, spending two years on ocean vessels. On the expiration of that period he made his way westward to Chicago, where he remained for a brief time, and then came to Baileys Harbor. Here he assisted in clearing farms and later, when he had saved a sufficient sum from his labors, he purchased forty acres of his present place. He afterward took a road job and received in payment one hundred and sixty acres covered with a dense growth of timber, which he at once began to clear away. He built a log house and barn and continued the work of general development and improvement, his labors resulting in the transformation of his wild land into one of the fine farms of the district. He now has excellent frame buildings upon his place and his farm is in fine condition. Although he had many hardships and privations

in the early days he persevered and his energy and resolute purpose have brought to him the success which he now enjoys.

In 1872 Mr. Meyer was united in marriage to Miss Ida Merschardt, a daughter of Victor Merschardt, who was a native of Holstein, Germany, and came to the United States in 1872, settling in Baileys Harbor, where he was married. To Mr. and Mrs. Meyer have been born three children, William, Arthur and Annie. The last named is now the wife of Reinholt Hickey.

Mr. Meyer has filled the office of supervisor for ten years and was road boss for nine years. His political support is always given to the republican party and he is a loyal adherent of its principles. He has lived to witness many changes in this section of the state. He was the first teamster on the ship canal and from early days he has taken an active and helpful part in promoting public improvement and progress. He has done much good for his community and is ever willing to lend a helping hand to many projects that tend to further the general good. Moreover, he has carefully and wisely managed his individual business interests and is today one of the prosperous agriculturists of his township.

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#### MOULTON B. GOFF.

Moulton B. Goff, actively connected with horticultural interests in Door county, gives him time and attention to the development and care of a large orchard at Sturgeon Bay, in addition to which he maintains stock raising interests. Indeed he is one of the most progressive agriculturists of this section of the state and took up his present line of business well equipped by thorough scientific training for the work which claims his thought and energies. He was born in Madison, Wisconsin, June 15, 1880, and is a son of Professor E. S. and Antoinette (Carr) Goff, both of whom were natives of Elmira, New York. In the year 1888 they arrived in Madison. For seven years the father had been horticulturist at the Geneva (New York) experiment station and he held the same position at the State University of Madison up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1902. His wife passed away the previous year. It was in 1894 that Mr. Goff purchased land in Door county in connection with A. L. Hatch and D. E. Bingham, the three becoming pioneers in the development of cherry orchards for commercial purposes. Few, if any, have done so much for the progress of the state along horticultural lines as Professor E. S. Goff, whose study and experiments have demonstrated the possibilities of Wisconsin in fruit production. He has indeed given an impetus to fruit raising the value of which is immeasurable, and his name should long be honored in this connection.

Moulton B. Goff was the younger of two sons but his brother, Charles E., died in childhood. At the usual age he became a pupil in the public schools of Madison and after completing his high school course there spent a year in the State University. He then went east to Cornell University, where in 1913 he completed the agricultural course. He had previously been connected with the fruit business at Sturgeon Bay and following his graduation he returned to take charge of the business at this point. He now has seventy acres devoted to fruit, thirty acres being planted to cherries, thirty acres to apples, five acres



PROFESSOR E. S. GOFF



MOULTON B. GOFF





to plums and five acres to small fruit. In addition he has one hundred and thirty acres of land which he farms, and upon his place he has a herd of pure bred Guernsey cattle.

On the 20th of August, 1913, Moulton B. Goff was married to Miss Agnes Davis, of Madison, a daughter of R. W. and Helen (Hopkins) Davis, and they now have two sons, Charles D. and Robert W. In politics Mr. Goff is a progressive republican and fraternally is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is one of the county's most progressive farmers, acquainted with ever phase of the work and continually studying, so that he keeps in touch with the latest researches, discoveries and improvements in methods of fruit and crop production. His ideals are high and he grasps eagerly every opportunity for raising himself to their level.

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#### ELIAS HELGESON.

Elias Helgeson is the proprietor of Edgewater Lodge, one of the finest hotels in Ephraim, and has been engaged in this business since 1906. He was born in Liberty Grove township, Door county, December 2, 1863, a son of Knute and Marit Helgeson, both of whom were natives of Norway. Leaving the land of the midnight sun, they crossed the Atlantic to America in 1852 and established their home in Manitowoc, Wisconsin, where they remained for a short time. They then removed to Door county, where the father homesteaded land, securing a tract of government land in Liberty Grove township, which he cleared and improved. After operating that place for some time he took up his abode in Gibraltar, a mile north of Ephraim, and this he also developed, continuing the cultivation of that farm throughout his remaining days. He passed away in 1907, at the age of eighty-three years, while his wife died in 1903. They were worthy pioneer people of the community and contributed to the progress and prosperity of the district as the years went on.

Elias Helgeson was reared and educated in Ephraim, the public school system affording him his educational opportunities. He continued with his parents until he reached the age of nineteen years, when he entered the employ of James Hanson as a clerk in his store. He spent twenty years in that capacity and also conducted a store for Mr. Hanson at Sister Bay for five years. He next engaged in fishing and gave more than two decades of his life to that pursuit. In 1906 he became proprietor of the Edgewater Lodge and has since remained in the hotel business. His hotel is one of the finest in Ephraim, beautifully situated overlooking the bay, and has accommodations for one hundred people. The Lodge is noted for its excellent table, also for the courtesy uniformly extended to guests and for the air of cheeriness that characterizes the place, giving it a homelike atmosphere.

On the 8th of March, 1884, Mr. Helgeson was united in marriage to Miss Tilla Hanson and to them have been born eight children: Lillie, who is the wife of Loren De Nune, a machinist residing in Beloit, Wisconsin; Grace, at home; Clyde, who wedded Miss Mildred Thorp; Elton, who was accidentally drowned in 1897; and Pearl, Guy, Elsie and Eugene, all of whom are yet at home.

In politics Mr. Helgeson is a republican and has filled the office of town

treasurer for sixteen years, a fact which indicates the trustworthiness with which he has discharged his duties, proving a capable custodian of the public funds of his township. His religious faith is that of the Moravian church, while fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America and with the Maccabees. A life long resident of Door county, he is widely and favorably known and the record which he has made as a business man and a citizen establishes him as one of the representative residents of this section of the state.

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#### MELVIN HAINES.

As most of the improvements which have been brought about in the locality of Melvin Haines, of Nasewaupee township, have been due chiefly to his initiative and energy, it is evident that he should be represented in any history of Door county. A native of Wisconsin, he was born January 7, 1850, and is a son of Talak and Helen Haines, who removed to Wisconsin from Canada in 1840. To them were born the following children: Oliver, who went to the front with the Union army in the Civil war and never returned; Tellif; Melvin; Mary, who is the wife of John Peterson, of Hainesville; Eli, a resident of Sawyer, Wisconsin; Christiana, who is the deceased wife of Hans Ellison and is buried in Hainesville; Oscar, a resident of Hainesville; and Elizabeth, the wife of Thomas Gillispie, of Los Angeles, California.

Melvin Haines is a self educated man. By virtue of thorough training in agricultural work under his father he was capable of taking charge of a farm by the time that he reached his majority. In 1874 he removed to what is now Hainesville and cleared and brought under cultivation land in that vicinity. He has devoted his life to farming and his place on section 12, Nasewaupee township, is thoroughly improved and developed in every way. His work is carefully planned and he has been the first man in the county to introduce many modern innovations in farm work. He owned the first gasoline engine in the county and was also the first to recognize the possibilities for a summer resort at Idlewild. His ability to see opportunities for advancement before they are apparent to others has been a factor in his individual prosperity and has also been conducive to the general welfare, for he has always been willing to give of his time and energy to bringing about public improvements which seem to be advisable. He is at present serving on the board of directors of the Fruit Growers Association and was formerly president of that body, which has done so much for the horticultural development of the county. He was the first business man and the first postmaster of Sawyer and in all that he has done he has manifested keenness of insight and soundness of judgment to an unusual degree.

Mr. Haines was married in 1874 to Miss Mary Sorenson, of Sawyer, who died in 1883 and is buried in the Nasewaupee cemetery. To them were born six children of whom three are living: Arthur, who is engaged in the transfer business in Duluth, Minnesota; Frank, who is head clerk of the George H. Dole commission firm and also has a seat on the Chicago Board of Trade; and Elizabeth, who is a trained nurse and resides in Chicago. For his second wife Mr. Haines chose Miss Emilia Thorson, of Door county.

Mr. Haines gives his political allegiance to the republican party as he believes in its principles, and he has served in a number of offices. For several years he was on the board of supervisors, for many years was clerk of his township, and for a long period was clerk of the school board in his district. He organized the first school at Hainesville and in more recent years was instrumental in securing the erection of an up-to-date brick school building in his district. He is now treasurer of Nasewaupee Cemetery Association. It was he who succeeded in getting a rural route through his locality. He is a member of the Hainesville Norwegian Lutheran church. When he first came to Door county his nearest neighbor was ten miles distant and in all the changes that have since occurred leading to the development of the county he has been an important factor.

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### JOSEPH N. WIERICHS.

Joseph N. Wierichs is the proprietor of the Sunnyside cheese factory in Egg Harbor township. He was born in Ahnapee township, Kewaunee county, Wisconsin, June 3, 1884, a son of Theodore and Frances (Matju) Wierichs, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Bohemia. When a young man the father left his native country and crossed the Atlantic to the new world, settling in Kewaunee county, Wisconsin. He purchased a farm in Ahnapee township which was covered with a native growth of forest trees and he at once began to clear the land and transform the property into productive fields. On the place he built a log cabin and spent his remaining days upon the old homestead, his death occurring in 1897. His widow survives and is now living in Forestville, Door county, Wisconsin.

Joseph N. Wierichs, whose name introduces this review, spent his boyhood upon the old homestead farm in his native county and there pursued his education. On starting out in the business world he was employed in a sawmill for two years and afterward worked for George Bottkol in Lincoln, Kewaunee county, Wisconsin. Later he attended the dairy school in Madison and thus gained a comprehensive knowledge of the most scientific methods of dairying and cheese manufacturing. After finishing his course there he started in business on his own account, renting a cheese factory at Lincoln for four years. He was also in Kewaunee for a short time and in Forestville two years and later he built a factory three and a quarter miles from Egg Harbor, while in May, 1917, he erected his present factory, which is splendidly equipped for the manufacture of cheese. He follows the most modern and improved methods and produces a most sanitary product of excellent quality. His output finds a ready sale on the market and commands the best market prices.

In 1913 Mr. Wierichs was married to Miss Gladys Lake, a daughter of William and Ella (De Bow) Lake. She was born at Clebourne, Texas, while her father was a native of Madison and her mother of Blair, Wisconsin. Her father was long connected with the Kewaunee, Green Bay & Western Railroad as a passenger conductor. He has been a railroad man all his life, employed on various lines. During the girlhood of his daughter, Mrs. Wierichs, he was in Mexico and she was the only white child at the place of her residence at that time. Her father

was a conductor on the Santa Fe Railroad and made trips from Galveston, Texas, and to Kansas City. He has all kinds of experiences during his connection with railroad work, including a holdup by train robbers. At length, however, he came to Wisconsin and it was here that his daughter became acquainted with Joseph Wierichs and their marriage resulted. They are well known in Egg Harbor township, where Mr. Wierichs is regarded as a representative business man, prominently connected with cheese manufacturing, which has become one of the important industries of this section of the state.

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#### HUBERT DANDOIS.

Since 1909 Hubert Dandois has conducted a garage in Brussels and for some time previous had been engaged in the saloon business. He still continues active along those lines and is also well known as a dealer in horses, having two good farm properties in this county. He was born in Brussels, Door county, February 19, 1869, and is a son of Ethan and Octavia (Delviex) Dandois, both of whom were natives of Belgium, where they were reared and married. The father engaged in harness making in the city of Brussels, after which he came to the new world in 1849, crossing the Atlantic on an old-time sailing vessel, the *Seymour*, which was six months in completing the trip. On one occasion the boat suffered considerable wreck at sea and repairs had to be made at Flushing. From that point they proceeded on to the United States by way of Quebec and later Mr. Dandois removed with his family to Green Bay, Wisconsin, and made the overland trip to Brussels. This section of the state was then largely wild and undeveloped and the most farsighted did not dream of the changes which were to occur and which would transform this from a frontier region into one of the populous, prosperous and highly attractive districts of the state. He took up government land, securing forty acres, on which he built a log house with a door in the roof. He then began to develop the land, clearing away the trees and brush, and in true pioneer style met all the privations incident to the settlement of the frontier. He made his own grain-grinding machinery and he performed much of the work of the farm by hand. For a number of years he continued to live upon that place, but eventually retired and established his home at Green Bay, where he departed this life March 25, 1910. For two decades he had survived his wife, who passed away on the old home farm in 1890. He was one of the worthy pioneer settlers, arriving in the county when there were no roads and the people had to follow blazed trails through the forests else they would have lost their way. Many of the old settlers carried grain on their backs from Bay Shore and for a considerable period they experienced all of the hardships which are incident to the settlement of a new country.

Hubert Dandois spent his boyhood in Brussels, securing his education in the public schools, while in the summer months he worked upon the old home farm. He was thus engaged until he reached the age of nineteen years, when he learned the blacksmith's trade at Brussels and also at Marinette, Wisconsin. Later he opened a shop on his own account in Brussels, where he conducted business until 1909. In that year he established a garage, which he has since conducted, and

for a number of years previous he had been proprietor of a saloon in Brussels. He continues in those lines of business and is meeting with merited success in whatever he undertakes. Aside from his interests in the town he has sixty acres of land in Brussels township and forty acres in Gardner township and upon his farm is engaged in handling horses.

In 1891 Mr. Dandois was united in marriage to Miss Virginia Mathy, a daughter of Charles and Annie Mathy, who were natives of Belgium and came to the United States in early life. Mrs. Dandois was also born in that country and accompanied her parents on their emigration to the new world. The family home was established in Union township, where the father purchased land and began the development of a farm, being actively connected with the agricultural interests of the early days. He died upon that place and his family afterward became owners of another farm. The mother now makes her home with her son. To Mr. and Mrs. Dandois have been born seven children, namely, Octavia, Mary, Ellen, Eva, Rosie, Anna and Johnny.

Mr. Dandois has always been a resident of Brussels township and is familiar with its history from an early period, while with its business affairs he has been closely identified, and the success which is now his is the direct outcome of persistent labor and close application.

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#### HENRY J. HAHN.

For twenty-three years Henry J. Hahn has been engaged in the furniture and undertaking business at Sturgeon Bay and is one of the leading merchants of Door county, progressive and enterprising. He carries a large and well selected line of goods and his business methods have ever been such as have won for him the confidence and support of the public. He was born in Kewaunee county, Wisconsin, June 11, 1865, and is a son of Henry and Barbara (Haen) Hahn, who were natives of Germany and came to America in early life, settling in Pennsylvania, where the father worked in the lumber mills for a time. He afterward came to Wisconsin, establishing his home in Kewaunee county, where he purchased land, which he improved and cultivated for nine years. In 1868 he came to Sturgeon Bay and bought city property, on which he erected a hotel, continuing its conduct throughout his remaining days. He passed away in 1887, while his wife, long surviving him, died May 30, 1903.

Henry J. Hahn is a well known and substantial citizen who has won for himself a very creditable place in public regard as a leading business man of Sturgeon Bay, where he has spent much of his life. He was here reared and educated and remained with his mother, operating the home farm after his father's death for six or seven years. He then turned his attention to the furniture and undertaking business, in which he has met with substantial prosperity, continuing active in this field for twenty-three years. He carries a large stock of fine furniture and enjoys a very liberal patronage, for his business methods are strictly honorable and in all his dealings he is thoroughly reliable, having never been known to take advantage of the necessities of his fellowmen in any trade transaction. He also has other important business interests, for he is the owner of an excellent farm of

one hundred and sixty acres in Sevastopol township, and on this he has a large orchard of thirty-five hundred trees. To the operation of his farm he gives his personal attention and displays good business ability in this connection. He owns the two story and basement brick building which he occupies as a furniture store and which was erected in 1904.

On the 18th of June, 1898, Mr. Hahn was united in marriage to Miss Emily Shimmel a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wenzel Shimmel, who were natives of Bohemia and in early life crossed the Atlantic, establishing their home in Door county, where the father became a farmer. Later he turned his attention to the tailoring and jewelry business and continued to reside in this county until his death, which occurred in October, 1913, his widow surviving until May 1915.

Mr. Hahn is a public-spirited citizen, interested in many plans to promote the general good. He is a member of the Fair Association and for eight years has served as its president. He is also a member and one of the board of directors of the Fruit Growers Association and for ten years he was chief of the fire department. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and he is now serving on the county board of supervisors, which position he has filled for four years. For five years he was a member of the board of aldermen and ever exercised his official prerogatives in support of plans to advance the welfare and promote the civic standards of the city. His religious faith is that of the Catholic church. His is an interesting career, showing what may be accomplished by determined effort and persistent energy. His ideals of life are high and in every relation he has been true to honorable principles.

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#### FRANK LONG.

Flags were unfurled at half mast when it was learned that Frank Long, of Sturgeon Bay, had passed away. It was the visible expression of the deep grief felt by the great majority of his fellow citizens, who had learned to know and honor him as a man of high principles, courageous in action, manly in purpose and patriotic in his devotion to his country. Of him it was said: "He was not a passive onlooker, but an active participant in the hard work that met the brave men and women who faced pioneer life and who, undaunted by hardships, created new conditions to fit into the marvellous transformations of modern life in the twentieth century."

Mr. Long was a native of the village of Entrup, in the province of Westphalia, Prussia. He was born December 31, 1847, his parents being John and Minnie Theresa Lange, who after their emigration to the United States took the American form of the word. For many generations their ancestors had been landowners, farmers and shoemakers, living for several centuries in the same region, but actuated by a spirit of progress, John Long determined to seek his fortune elsewhere and in 1853 came to the new world as a passenger on the Grosse Herman, which weighed anchor at Bremen. He was accompanied by his wife and two children, Frank and Theresa, and after a six weeks' voyage they landed at New York in August. They at once proceeded westward, traveling over the newly constructed railroad to Buffalo, thence by a little lake steamer to



FRANK LONG





Toledo and on by the Wabash canal to Fort Wayne, Indiana. Cholera was then devastating that section of the country and the mother and sister became ill of the disease and passed away. While living at Fort Wayne the father married again and in 1856 came to Wisconsin, settling at Green Bay. There he left his family and started out in search of employment, for through a series of misfortunes he had lost nearly everything that he had previously possessed. He found work with E. S. Yates, the first shoemaker of Sturgeon Bay, and six months later his family joined him, having made the trip by sailing vessel. It was on the 22d of October, 1856, therefore that Frank Long became a resident of this city. From that time forward the father conducted a boot and shoe business on his own account, meeting with substantial success up to the time of his retirement from business in 1872.

Frank Long had begun his education in a parochial school at Fort Wayne, Indiana, and later attended public school in Sturgeon Bay, but when a youth of fourteen started out to earn his own living, securing the position of devil in the printing office of the Sturgeon Bay Advocate, a newly established paper, which did not bring forth its first issue until a month later, and during that period the young lad learned not a little concerning the methods of setting type and other work of the printing office. Six months later he was given entire charge of the mechanical work and remained in charge until 1864, when he went to Oconto, Wisconsin, and became active in the establishment of the Oconto Lumberman. After a year, however, he returned to Sturgeon Bay and again became connected with the Advocate, occupying a position in the composing room until 1875, when he purchased the paper, of which he remained editor and proprietor up to the time of his death, within which period the paper developed from a little five-column folio to a six-column, eight-page paper. The spirit of progress was manifest in each department of the business. The Washington hand press and hand-set type were superseded by the electrically controlled cylinder press and linotype machine. The changes wrought and the advancement made in the mechanical and other departments of the paper were the direct result of the untiring efforts and business ability of the owner. It has been said that there is no criterion of character so great as the attitude of the employer toward those in his service. In this connection N. C. Garland bears the following testimony: "Inasmuch as there are many who have kindly submitted their tributes to Mr. Long as they knew him as an editor, citizen and Christian gentleman, it is my pleasure to tell of his virtues as an employer. In the past twenty odd years that I have been employed by Mr. Long I never heard him utter one word of censure or abuse to anyone in his employ. If he was displeased at anything done by an employe he took the kindly and charitable view of the matter and dismissed it from his mind with the conviction in his heart that the offense was not intended. He always had a kind and cheerful word for those in his employ and his greatest pleasure was in doing something for them which he felt would give them enjoyment. His sympathies were deep and responsive and those in his employ were like one of his own family. To work for him was to love and admire him for his many good qualities of heart and mind. Ever ready to extend a helping hand, always anxious to do a kindly act, truly he was one of God's noblemen. Those who knew him best loved him most."

On the 20th of October, 1869, at Sturgeon Bay, Mr. Long was married to

Miss Agnes Damkoehler, a native of Walworth county. Her parents were Ernest and Mathilde Damkoehler, the latter still living at the age of eighty-four years. Her father, who was born in Brunswick, Germany, served under Napoleon in the Algerian campaign and at the time of the Civil war in the United States he joined Company H of the Twenty-sixth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and while at the front was wounded and captured, being sent to Andersonville prison, where he died of starvation and neglect. Mr. and Mrs. Long became the parents of eight children: F. Erve, a blacksmith and implement dealer of Niagara, Wisconsin; Ernest W., who is connected with the Sturgeon Bay Advocate and is the owner of a farm in this county; Clarence E., who is professor in a nautical school in Milwaukee; Amy D., the wife of the Rev. Sam Groenfeldt, of Ephraim, Wisconsin; Dudley S., owner of the Sturgeon Bay Advocate and proprietor of a garage in Sturgeon Bay; Agnes L., the wife of A. C. Woerfel, a druggist of Sawyer, Wisconsin; and two who died in childhood.

When Mr. Long passed away on the 27th of December, 1912, his four sons and two half-brothers acted as pallbearers, and with the impressive service of the Masonic fraternity his remains were interred. He had long been an honored member of Henry S. Baird Lodge, No. 216, F. & A. M., and also of Unit Lodge, No. 144, K. P., and the Sons of Hermann. He was never a politician in the sense of office seeking and yet was a power in local and state politics. In writing of him at the time of his demise the Rev. W. H. Vogler said: "In speaking of Mr. Long as a patriotic citizen, we speak words of soberness and truth. He loved the land of his adoption. He was proud of her greatness. He was enthusiastic over the institutions that created that greatness. Hence he took an active part in the political life that throbbed during the stirring times of his vigorous manhood. He mingled and led in the necessary strife of parties, but without acrimony. He was keenly awake to the joy of victory. He knew how to bear defeat without bitterness. He despised clap-trap and chicanery. He could scent the corruptionist who came with money or patronage so quickly as to forestall any attempt in this direction. He could handle public money and account for it, he could make money tell for the cause he espoused without a thought of anything but honorable success. He came through with clean hands. His was the great heart of the plain citizen, doing a plain citizen's duty without the desire for office or emolument. About ten years prior to his death he joined the Moravian church. He did not parade his religion. He did not make extravagant claims or professions. He was quiet, conscientious, consistent; regular in his attendance upon the services, generous in his support of the church and highly appreciative of the great value of Christian institutions as the chief factor in the upbuilding of civic or personal life and character." When death called him tributes of esteem, respect and honor were heard on every hand. E. S. Minor spoke of him as: "One of Sturgeon Bay's best beloved and most highly respected citizens," adding, "Mr. Long will always be counted by those who knew him best as among the noblest of the human kind. He has left a vacant place that will be hard to fill. He will be missed by his family, his friends, by the city, county and state. It has been my privilege to enjoy an intimate acquaintance with Mr. Long for more than forty years. I have known him well morally, socially and politically, and I now bear most willing testimony to the fact that at all times and in all circumstances I found in him a manly man, a loyal friend and a splendid citizen. 'Tis idle to

attempt an enumeration of his many splendid traits, they were as numerous as sands on the sea shore." Dudley S. Crandall bore the following tribute: "In the remarkably successful career of Mr. Frank Long is illustrated the value of persistence in a high purpose. When the writer hereof made the acquaintance of Mr. Long in 1870—more than forty-two years ago—he was a workman in the employ of the Harris brothers, who were at that time the proprietors of the Advocate. He then realized that in order to rise above the common level he must become the master instead of the man, and with this end in view he within a few years became the owner of the business. At that time the circulation of the Advocate was limited to about four hundred copies, but under his skillful management the circle of readers rapidly expanded until its subscription list became one of the largest among local journals in this or any other state, while in typographic appearance it has few equals and no superiors. Mr. Long lived to see Sturgeon Bay expand from a rude lumbering camp to a beautiful city possessing many modern features, and from a population of a few hundreds to more than as many thousands. He witnessed a similar transformation in the county at large, which from a wilderness and desert place has been made to blossom as the rose. For these rapid changes our people are largely indebted to Mr. Long, whose exhibit of our productive soil, our fisheries and many other advantages had much influence in the upbuilding of Door county. That he was personally popular is abundantly demonstrated by the large concourse which followed his remains to the tomb, the vast assemblage indicating that the entire city deeply mourned the loss of our departed friend." Another said: "In all my dealings with him I found that one could rely upon what he promised, for Mr. Long was strictly honest. He may have taken stands on certain questions that were not in accord with some of his friends' views, but in so doing if he erred I feel confident that he did so conscientiously and believed that it was for the public good." His strong characteristics were further attested by Harry E. Damkoehler, who said: "Door county has suffered an irreparable loss in the death of its most distinguished citizen, Mr. Frank Long. No man in the county was better or more favorably known, and no man did more for the development of the county and fought more persistently for its well-being than the late editor of the Advocate. Every scheme put forth that he considered a detriment to the people of the county he fought with vigor, and every plan for the moral or material betterment of the people received his full support. During his long career as editor of the Advocate he proved himself above price and he was ever content to modestly do his duty to his fellowmen. One of his greatest pleasures was to do another a favor, whether friend or enemy. To say that many whom he bitterly opposed afterward became his warm friends fully shows his fair dealings and high purpose. Mr. Long was devoted to his family and friends, and no one's death will be more sincerely regretted." Willard E. Gaede bore the following testimony: "Deep in the soul of man is that sentiment which would keep alive the memories of worthy and gifted men and the good which they have accomplished. To utter a tribute to Mr. Frank Long is a pleasant duty. He was the son of one of the early settlers and during his boyhood days Door county was little more than a wilderness with little to offer except hard work and hardships. But with indomitable will he was able to overcome one hardship after another until his chosen profession in life was crowned with

success. Now death has terminated his career the community mourns his loss as deeply as those who have been intimately associated with him for the past forty years. As a further tribute to his sterling character, it mattered not which side he took upon any question which affected the public or its policies, he was never influenced by any mercenary motive and his opposition or support was clearly from his heart and what he believed to be right."

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#### CARL BLUNK.

Carl Blunk, who carries on dairying on section 15, Egg Harbor township, was born in Germany in January, 1855, and is a son of Carl and Marie Blunk, who were natives of that country and came to America in 1880. In the same year Carl Blunk crossed the Atlantic with his parents, being at the time twenty-five years of age. He had followed farming in Germany and on reaching the new world he took up his abode at Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin, where he resided until 1883, when he removed to Egg Harbor township. He purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land on section 15 and at once began developing and improving the property. He today is the owner of a well improved place, which he has continuously cultivated, and he makes a specialty of dairying, milking eleven cows.

On the 6th of September, 1887, Mr. Blunk was united in marriage to Miss Augusta Berndt, a daughter of Louis and Katie Berndt, who were natives of Germany, where the mother passed away in 1867, when her daughter Augusta was but a year old. The father afterward came to America with his family in 1884 and established his home in Milwaukee, where he departed this life in 1912.

Mr. Blunk maintains an independent course politically, supporting men and measures rather than party when he exercises his right of franchise. He is a Lutheran in religious faith and endeavors to guide his life by the teachings of the church. For thirty-seven years he has been a resident of Door county and for more than a third of a century has lived upon his present farm in Egg Harbor township.

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#### ERNEST J. DELCHAMBRE.

Ernest J. Delchambre, a progressive and successful young farmer residing on section 13, Sevastopol township, was born in Belgium, December 26, 1880, a son of Desire and Emerance Delchambre. The father was a miner in his native country and after removing to the United States and locating in Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin, he worked in a sawmill in that town for a few years. He then purchased a farm in Sevastopol township, cleared it of timber and erected suitable buildings thereon, thus adding greatly to the value of the tract. At length he traded it for the west half of the southwest quarter of section 13, Sevastopol township, which had been homesteaded by John Hocks, one of the first settlers of the township, and which was already a well developed farm when it came into the possession of Mr. Delchambre. During all this time they continued to



MR. AND MRS. ERNEST J. DELCHAMBRE



reside in Sturgeon Bay and both he and his wife are still living there, the farm being operated by their son, Ernest J. Delchambre. They are the parents of five children: Julia, who is the wife of Albert Kubis, of Sturgeon Bay; Justin, deceased; Alphonsin, now Mrs. Norbert Glesner, of Sturgeon Bay; Ernest J.; and Gustav, who is also upon his father's farm.

Ernest J. Delchambre was but eight years of age when brought to the United States by his parents and therefore received the greater part of his education in the schools of Sturgeon Bay. He had reached young manhood when his father became the owner of his present farm on the southwest quarter of section 13, Sevastopol township, and he at once took up his residence upon that place, which he has since operated with the assistance of his brother Gustav. They engage in general farming and derive good profits from their labors. The soil is naturally rich and its fertility is conserved by careful methods of cultivation, and they have also taken care to keep all the buildings and fences in good condition.

On the 9th of June, 1914, Mr. Delchambre was married to Miss Mary Strahan, a daughter of Louis and Johanna Elizabeth (Quinn) Strahan, who were early settlers of Sevastopol township. The mother is still residing near the Institute, but the father has passed away. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Delchambre, namely: Justin and Joseph, twins, born February 23, 1915; and Alvin, who was born May 31, 1917.

Mr. Delchambre votes the republican ticket at national elections as a rule, but at local elections is inclined to be independent, believing that the qualifications of a candidate should be considered before his party affiliation. He is a member of the Modern Brotherhood of America and also of the Sts. Peter and Paul church. His genuine worth as a man is indicated by the high esteem in which he is held by those who have known him intimately since boyhood, and his success as a farmer is evidence of his enterprise and ability.

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#### ANDREW J. WICKMAN.

Andrew J. Wickman is now living retired in Liberty Grove township but for many years was actively identified with farming interests in Door county. He well deserves the rest that has come to him, for his has been a busy and useful life and he has contributed much to the agricultural development of this section of the state. He was born in Sweden, December 23, 1848, a son of Johan and Martha Anderson, who were also natives of that country. The father died when his son Andrew was but three years of age and at the early age of nine years the son began working at farm labor, and later also worked in the woods, being thus employed until he reached the age of twenty-three years, spending the winter months in the forests and the summer seasons in farm work. In the meantime his mother married again and his stepfather came to America, hoping to better his financial condition on this side the Atlantic. Pleased with the opportunities which he found and hoping for future success, he sent for his family after two years and in 1872 Andrew J. Wickman came to the new world with his mother. The family home was established in Iowa and there Andrew J. Wickman

remained until 1873, when he came to Door county, Wisconsin, locating at Ellison Bay. For three months he was manager of a boarding house at Gills Rock and on the expiration of that period he purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land located near Ellison Bay and turned his attention to farming. He cleared a portion of this land and continued its cultivation for many years, carefully developing the fields. His labors wrought a marked change in the appearance of the place, which ever gave an indication of his practical and progressive methods, for annually he gathered large and abundant harvests. His son now operates the home farm, while Mr. Wickman is living retired in the enjoyment of a rest which he has truly earned and richly deserves.

On the 9th of June, 1873, Mr. Wickman was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Ostrom, a daughter of Andrew Ostrom, a native of Sweden. They have become the parents of nine children, namely: Martha, who married A. M. Anderson, a farmer residing in Ellison Bay; Louisa, the wife of Harry Muller, a resident of Chicago; Sarah; Anna, deceased; John; Amanda, the wife of Charles Anderson, of Ellison Bay; Gusta, the wife of Bert Jacobson, of Chicago; Alfred, residing on the home farm; and Gilbert.

In his political views Mr. Wickman is a republican. He has served as road officer and for eighteen years was school director, the cause of education finding in him a stalwart champion. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church and assisted in organizing the congregation and in building the house of worship. His memory goes back to pioneer times when much of this country was wild and undeveloped. He has assisted in the work of general progress and improvement and his life record forms a connecting link between the primitive past and the progressive present.

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#### ROBERT B. CORNISH.

Robert B. Cornish, one of the most prominent and successful horticulturists of Door county, is living on section 32, Sevastopl township, and his long experience and close study enable him to speak with authority upon matters relating to fruit raising. He was born in Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin, March 21, 1874, a son of Oscar and Elizabeth (Whitney) Cornish, who were natives of New York and of Vermont respectively. The father was a lumber merchant, following that business after his arrival in Wisconsin. Later, however, he turned his attention to the manufacture of dairy supplies at Fort Atkinson. He came to this state at an early period in its development and was closely associated with its progress and improvements as the years went on. He passed away in 1894, while his wife, surviving him for some time, died in the year 1907.

Robert B. Cornish was reared and educated at Fort Atkinson and also attended St. John's Military Academy at Delafield, Wisconsin, from which in due course of time he was graduated. Liberal educational facilities thus qualified him for life's practical and responsible duties and when his textbooks were put aside he worked in his father's factory and later in his father's office, serving as paymaster during the last three years of his connection with the business, in which were employed three hundred and fifty men. In March, 1912, Mr. Cornish came to



Door county and purchased a forty acre orchard in Sevastopol township. He at once set about improving the property and introducing modern scientific methods in relation to fruit culture. He now has ten hundred and forty cherry trees and four hundred apple trees and his orchards compare favorably with the best to be found in this part of the state. He is now giving his entire thought and attention to fruit raising and is meeting with very substantial success. He is a director of the Fruit Union of Door county and others interested in the same line of business recognize his sound opinions in everything relating to fruit culture.

In June, 1897, Mr. Cornish was united in marriage to Miss Jessie Kirkland and to them have been born two children: Mary, born March 12, 1898; and Robert, born March 4, 1900. The parents hold membership in the Episcopal church and Mr. Cornish gives his political allegiance to the democratic party. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity and to the Knights of Pythias lodge and in his life exemplifies the beneficent spirit which underlies those organizations. He has served as clerk of the local school district and he is interested in everything that pertains to progress and improvement in the locality in which he lives. In fact he is actuated by a spirit of advancement in all that he undertakes and he possesses, moreover, that determination which enables him to carry forward to successful completion whatever he begins.

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#### JOSEPH J. WASHICHEK.

Joseph J. Washichek, who is engaged in general merchandising in Baileys Harbor township and is also conducting a cheese factory there, was born in West Kewaunee, Wisconsin, on the 7th of October, 1876, a son of Jacob and Nellie (Skopec) Washichek, both of whom were natives of Bohemia, where they were reared and married. They were farming people in that country until 1858, when they crossed the Atlantic to the United States and established their home in Milwaukee. There the father worked for a time and later he went to West Kewaunee, where he purchased eighty acres of land which was covered with a dense growth of forest trees, and in the woods about him there was wild game of all kinds, including many deer. It was no difficult thing, therefore, for the early settler to supply his table with meat. There was, however, much difficulty experienced in clearing the land, for the trees had to be cut down, the stumps grubbed up, the brush burned and the land thus prepared for the plow. He built a log house and at once began the task of developing his farm, performing all the arduous labor incident to the cultivation of a new tract of land. Upon his place he remained throughout the rest of his life, passing away in 1901, while his wife survived until 1904.

Joseph J. Washichek was reared upon the old homestead farm, remaining with his father until he reached the age of eighteen years, when he learned the cheese-making business at Carlton, Kewaunee county, where he spent three years. He next went to Pulaski, Wisconsin, where he was employed in a cheese factory. He a year. Later he made his home in Piercetown, Kewaunee county, where he engaged in cheese making for two years and then removed to Whitefish Bay, where he continued in the same line of business for five years. He afterward

spent two years in cheese manufacturing in Jacksonport, Door county, and for one year was located at Sevastopol Institute. He next established his home in Baileys Harbor township and purchased his present business corner, upon which he built a two story building and cheese factory. There he conducts a general merchandise business and is meeting with substantial success in the undertaking. He carries a well selected line of goods and his reasonable prices, his straightforward business methods and his enterprise have brought to him a gratifying and well deserved patronage. He also continues in cheese making and finds that a profitable branch of his interests.

In 1907 Mr. Washichek was married to Miss Rose Nottling, a daughter of Bernard and Elizabeth (Schaeffer) Nottling. Mrs. Washichek was born at Ryan, Manitowoc county, Wisconsin, but her grandparents were natives of Germany, while her mother was born in Manitowoc county, Wisconsin, and her father in New Orleans. To Mr. and Mrs. Washichek have been born three children, Juliet, Nettie and Anna.

Mr. Washichek is much interested in the cause of education and is serving as school clerk. He cooperates in all plans and measures for the general good, his aid and cooperation being always to be depended upon where the public welfare is at stake. Whatever he undertakes he accomplishes and his persistent energy enables him to overcome all obstacles or difficulties in his path.

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#### ROBERT DEGODT.

Belgium's contribution to the citizenship of Door county includes Robert Degodt, who was born in that country, October 27, 1849, a son of Ambrose and Louise (Weaver) Degodt, who had a family of nine children, seven of whom are yet living although Robert is now the only one residing in Door county. He was a little lad of two summers when his parents came to the United States with their family, settling near Philadelphia. The father was employed in cotton factories there for a few years and later removed to Chester, Pennsylvania, where he remained for several years before coming west to Wisconsin. On reaching this state he bought a farm in Brown county, upon which he continued for seven or eight years, and then retired from active business life, taking up his abode in Green Bay, where he remained until death called him to the home beyond. For some time he had survived his wife, who died in Pennsylvania.

To the common school system of the Keystone state Robert Degodt was indebted for his educational opportunities. He attended school to the age of sixteen years, when he started out to provide for his own support, working in the cotton factories to the age of eighteen. He then went with his father to Wisconsin and for some time was employed in sawmills, spending much of the time in that way in Kewaunee county for a period of twelve years. After coming to Door county he turned his attention to the occupation of farming, renting land in Sevastopol township for the next five years. In 1915 he removed to Jacksonport township and is now renting the south half of the southwest quarter of section 30, and the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter of sec-

tion 31, thus cultivating one hundred and twenty acres of good land. He also owns a small farm in Sevastopol township.

On the 1st of January, 1881, Mr. Degodt was united in marriage to Miss Jennie Lonzo, a daughter of Joseph and Adelaide (Bodet) Lonzo, who were natives of Canada. Both have departed this life, the father having died in Kewaunee county, Wisconsin, while the mother, who had married again, becoming the wife of John Bulles, died in Little Sturgeon Bay. Mr. and Mrs. Degodt have become parents of six children: Mary, the wife of Otto Malvetz of Sturgeon Bay; Josephine, the wife of Martin Tollipson of Sturgeon Bay; Elmer, who has enlisted in the Wisconsin National Guard and will soon go to Camp Douglas; Jennie, at home; Anna, the wife of Barnard Stoffels of Sturgeon Bay; and Elizabeth, at home. Mr. Degodt is a stalwart republican, having always supported the party, but has never sought nor desired office. He has worked hard and his diligence has brought to him the measure of success which he enjoys.

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#### HERMAN WELCKER, M. D.

Dr. Herman Welcker, of Fish Creek, has engaged in the practice of medicine to only a slight extent for many years, having given the greater part of his attention to the hotel business, in which he has met with marked success. He also owns a valuable tract of land in Door county and his business interests have been wisely managed. He was born June 7, 1849, in Germany, a son of Herman and Wilhelmina (Patzschke) Welcker, also natives of Germany. The father was well known and highly esteemed in his community and was called to local office. He passed away in the fatherland in 1892 and the mother died there in 1876.

Herman Welcker was reared in his native country and received liberal educational advantages, graduating from Leipsic University in medicine in 1877. The following seventeen years were spent in the practice of his profession in Germany but in 1894 he came to the United States, as he had heard much concerning the excellent opportunities here offered. He located in Milwaukee, where he engaged in practice for some time. In 1896 he came to Fish Creek, Door county, on a pleasure trip and was so pleased with the country that he decided to make it his place of residence. He accordingly removed to Fish Creek, where he has since remained. In 1898 he entered the hotel business and in 1907 built what is known as Dr. Welcker's Casino. There are also twelve cottages at the resort and he can accommodate in all one hundred and fifty people at a time. His place ranks with the best summer hotels and resorts and his patrons are people of refinement who demand superior accommodations. He also owns three hundred acres of good land, to which he has given the name of Sunrise Farm and which adjoins the village. He has made many improvements upon the farm and has also developed a great deal of property in Fish Creek. His keen business insight was demonstrated by his decision to engage in the hotel business here, as he was the first man in Fish Creek to enter that line of endeavor, and although there are now many hotels and resorts, his place still retains its prestige.

Dr. Welcker was married in April, 1880, to Miss Henrietta Weinstein, and

they became the parents of a daughter, Mathilda, who was born January 25, 1881, and died in 1901 when twenty years of age. Dr. Welcker supports the republican party at the polls but has not otherwise taken an active part in politics. He holds membership in the Evangelical Lutheran church and in all the relations of life has adhered to high standards of conduct. During the two decades that he has resided in Door county he has been an important factor in the development of Fish Creek and Gibraltar township and he has also won the personal esteem of those with whom he has come in contact.

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### SAMUEL CHURCHES.

Samuel Churches is living retired in Fish Creek after many years of well directed labor and enjoys the confidence and esteem of those who know him. He was born in England, April 25, 1838, a son of James and Edith (Churches) Churches, also natives of that country. The father, who was a farmer, came to America in young manhood and located near Kenosha, Wisconsin, where he followed agricultural pursuits until his removal to Iowa. He also farmed there and resided in that state until his death.

Samuel Churches was reared and educated in England and in Kenosha county, Wisconsin, and through assisting his father with the work of the farm gained thorough training in agricultural pursuits. After his parents removed to Iowa he was in the employ of others in Wisconsin until the Civil war. He then enlisted in Company E, First Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and was at the front with that command for three years, during which time he saw much hard fighting. After the close of hostilities he came to Door county and for four years resided in Baileys Harbor. He then purchased land in Gibraltar township, on which he made improvements from time to time and which he developed into a highly cultivated and valuable property. He also was employed for twelve years as a rural mail carrier, covering a twenty-seven mile route. For two years he has made his home in Fish Creek and is enjoying a period of well deserved leisure made possible by his labor in other years.

In 1869 Mr. Churches was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Barringer, by whom he had four children: Sherman, born August 5, 1870; John, May 26, 1872; Martha, October 12, 1873; and Willie, July 3, 1878. The wife and mother passed away May 22, 1881, and on the 27th of May, 1883, Mr. Churches was married to Miss Ada Fairchild, a daughter of Charles and Sarah (Judd) Fairchild, natives of Massachusetts. The father, who was a farmer came to Door county, Wisconsin, with his family about 1860 and purchased a tract of land in Gibraltar township, which he cleared and to the cultivation of which he devoted the remainder of his life. His death occurred in 1889 but his wife survived until 1897. By his second marriage Mr. Churches has five children, as follows: Frank, born April 10, 1884; Edith, August 23, 1885; Harry, April 26, 1887; and Blaine and Blanche, twins, born July 9, 1891.

Mr. Churches is a stanch republican and has held many local offices. For several years he was chairman of the town board, was township clerk for some time, served as chairman of the county board of supervisors for sixteen years

MR. AND MRS. SAMUEL CHURCHES





and was justice of the peace and notary public for many years. He was serving as chairman of the board of supervisors when the courthouse was built and in that capacity had a great deal of responsibility connected with the erection of the building. He holds membership in the Grand Army of the Republic and has taken a great deal of pleasure in his association with others who fought to save the Union. In religious faith he is an Episcopalian.

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### GEORGE JORGENSEN.

George Jorgenson is the owner of an eight-acre farm in Clay Banks township, where he has resided since 1900, and in the intervening period of seventeen years he has placed many excellent improvements upon his land. He is numbered among the substantial citizens that Norway has furnished to Door county, his birth having occurred in Valders, December 15, 1857, his parents being Ambric and Mary Jorgenson. In 1865 they came with their family to the new world, settling on a farm in Manitowoc county, Wisconsin. In 1870 they removed to Door county and in the following year the father aided in fighting the fire which swept over this section of the state. He took up his abode upon a farm in Forestville and afterward sold that place to his son, while he retired to private life, establishing his home in Sawyer. He died October 10, 1907, when he had reached the age of seventy-five years. The family numbered thirteen children.

George Jorgenson spent his youthful days in the usual manner of the farm bred boy and the public schools afforded him his educational opportunities. His advantages in youth were somewhat meager owing to the fact that he was one of a large family and that pioneer conditions still existed in this section of the state. The occupation to which he was reared he determined to make his life work and he began farming in Forestville, whence he removed to Clay Banks township in 1900, securing his present farm of eighty acres. Upon this he has made all of the improvements save the brick residence which he occupies. He has good buildings for the shelter of grain and stock and he uses the latest improved machinery in carrying on the work of the fields. His place presents a neat and attractive appearance and indicates the careful supervision of the owner. In addition to his farming interests Mr. Jorgenson is a stockholder in the Viking Telephone Company.

On the 10th of September, 1883, Mr. Jorgenson was united in marriage to Miss Bertha Paarman, of Algoma, Wisconsin, a daughter of Fred Paarman, who came originally from Germany. Mrs. Jorgenson was born November 30, 1862, and by her marriage has become the mother of nine children: Fred, who died at the age of nine years; Laura, the wife of Lawrence Madoche, of Sandpoint, Idaho; Eleanor, the wife of Clarence Almgren, of Nebraska; William; George, who is a member of the National Guard; Oscar, who is living in Clay Banks; Lilly, a teacher in Ellison Bay and a graduate of the Algoma (Wis.) Training School; Madeline; and Roland, at home.

The family adhere to the faith of the Norwegian Lutheran church. Mr. Jorgenson gives his political allegiance to the republican party and he has filled various offices, the duties of which he has discharged with promptness and fidelity.

For three years he was supervisor in Forestville. He was instrumental in the organization of the local school district and was a director of the Clay Banks district for some time. He has served as road overseer, which position he is filling at this writing, and he was supervisor for two years. He stands for progress and improvement in all public matters and cooperates heartily in plans and measures for the general good. While born across the water, almost his entire life has been spent in this county and he is well known as one of its substantial and reliable citizens at all times loyal to its welfare.

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#### OTTO PEIL.

From the age of sixteen years Otto Peil has resided upon the farm on section 18 in Baileys Harbor township on which he still makes his home. He was born in Brandenburg, Germany, September 11, 1865, a son of Carl and Augusta (Getmand) Peil, who were also natives of Brandenburg, where they were reared and married. There the father followed the occupation of farming until 1881, when he came to the United States and established his home upon the farm on which his son Otto now resides, securing a tract of eighty acres. The land was wild and undeveloped but he at once began its improvement, clearing a part of it. He erected buildings thereon and continued the cultivation of his fields throughout his remaining days. He reached the seventy-fifth milestone on life's journey, and his wife passed away in the year 1909.

Otto Peil spent the first sixteen years of his life in his native country and then accompanied his parents to the United States. He had acquired his education in the schools of the fatherland and since coming to America has given his attention to general agricultural pursuits. In 1896 he was united in marriage to Miss Hattie Henry, a daughter of Carl and Carolina (Langua) Henry. Mrs. Peil was born in Germany but was married in Baileys Harbor, and by her marriage she has become the mother of ten children: Carl, Alfreda, Walter, Reinhart, Martha, Adaline, Arthur, Hans, Roland and Hilda.

In his business affairs Mr. Peil has shown good judgment and unfaltering enterprise. He has worked diligently in the development of his farm and is today the owner of a valuable and productive property which is bringing to him good return and which has placed him among the substantial agriculturists of the community.

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#### WILLIAM GIGOT, Sr.

William Gigot, Sr., who has added to his landed possessions from time to time until he is now the owner of an excellent farm of two hundred and fifty-one acres, ranks with the representative agriculturists of Gardner township. His home is on section 9 and the neat and thrifty appearance of his place indicates his careful supervision and practical and progressive methods. It was in this township that he was born May 17, 1867. His father, Henry Gigot, came to the



new world from Belgium in 1847 and removed westward to Wisconsin, establishing his home in Door county, where in an early day he conducted a saloon. He afterward homesteaded land, securing a tract of eighty acres, and in the course of years he purchased another tract of similar size, thus becoming the owner of a good farm of one hundred and sixty acres. He died August 17, 1899, at the age of seventy-four years, and thus was ended a life of great usefulness. His family numbered nine children: August; Matilda, who died in infancy; Josephine, deceased; Delphine, the wife of Clem Herlache; Elizabeth, the wife of Godfrey Loverlette; Henry; Felix, who is living in Sawyer, Wisconsin; William; and Matilda, who has passed away.

At the age of six years William Gigot, Sr., became a pupil in the public schools and devoted his attention to the acquirement of an education until he put aside his textbooks in order to concentrate his entire attention upon the home farm. He worked for his father until the latter's death in 1899 and since that time he has continued the development of the land, upon which he has placed many modern improvements. He has added to his holdings from time to time until his place now comprises two hundred and fifty-one acres, constituting one of the fine farms in Gardner township. He works along progressive lines in the development of his fields and his work has resulted in the annual harvesting of good crops whereby he secures a gratifying yearly income.

On the 28th of February, 1899, Mr. Gigot was united in marriage to Miss Rosie Neville and they have become the parents of eight children: Jule; Ed; Gus; Matilda, the wife of Alec Herlache; Henry; Harris; Clarence; and Lena, all of whom were born in Gardner township.

Mr. Gigot's father was one of the founders of St. Joseph's Catholic church, of which William Gigot of this review is a communicant. He has also served as a director of the school district for seven years and is much interested in public progress and improvement along that line. His political endorsement is given to the republican party and while not an office seeker he is loyal to the best interests of the community and gives his cooperation to many plans and measures for the general good.

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#### ALFRED GIBSON.

Alfred Gibson is the owner of an excellent farm of one hundred and forty acres on section 27, Baileys Harbor township. It is now a splendidly improved property and its attractive appearance indicates his careful supervision, progressive methods and indefatigable industry. He was born in Skåne, Sweden, June 8, 1848, a son of Peter and Hanna (Hanson) Gibson, who spent their entire lives in their native country. The father was a sailor and fisherman in Sweden and followed those pursuits in order to provide for his family.

Alfred Gibson passed his boyhood days in his native country, where he remained until his majority, when in 1869 he left Sweden for the new world. Making his way westward to Chicago, he was there employed for three years at different lines of work and he also spent a short time in Indiana. He likewise worked in the woods and in Missouri he was engaged in railroad work, being

employed in railroad building near Springfield. He also worked in Menominee, Michigan, and in 1875 he engaged in fishing, making his home during that period at Egg Harbor. He again worked in the lumber woods until 1880, when, having saved a considerable sum from his earnings, he purchased a part of his present farm, becoming the owner of an eighty acre tract of wooded land. Upon this place he built a small frame house and at once began to clear and develop his property. Tree after tree was felled and the land prepared for the plow. The work of cultivation was then continued and in due course of time he was gathering good crops as a reward of his labor. Prosperity attended his efforts and he is now the owner of one hundred and forty acres of excellent farm land which is well improved with fine buildings, so that his place is one of the attractive properties of the community.

In 1882 Mr. Gibson was united in marriage to Miss Emma Rodemaker, a daughter of August and Wilhelmina (Clous) Rodemaker. Mrs. Gibson was born in Germany, as were her parents, who came with their family to the new world in an early day. They settled in Baileys Harbor township, Door county, where both are now living. To the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Gibson have been born six children, Adele, Leona, Anna, Andy, Walter and Agnes. For more than four decades Mr. Gibson has been a resident of this section of the state, arriving in Egg Harbor township in 1875. He has lived to witness many changes as the work of progress has been carried forward and in this transformation he has borne his part, for his life has been one of diligence and earnest purpose and indefatigable energy have enabled him to contribute in large measure to the agricultural development of this section. His business affairs have been wisely managed and his success is the direct and merited reward of his own labors.

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#### RUDOLPH DETTMANN.

Rudolph Dettmann, a resident farmer of Forestville township, was born on the old Dettmann homestead on the 13th of August, 1877, a son of Joachim and Hannah (Stechman) Dettmann. His boyhood days were spent in Forestville township and at the usual age he became a pupil in the public schools. When not busy with his textbooks he worked in the fields and he remained upon the old home place until he reached the age of twenty-five years, when he started out in farm life on his own account, purchasing land about a mile and a half east of Maplewood. He had a tract of eighty acres, there to the development and improvement of which he devoted the succeeding fifteen years. He then sold that property and in May, 1916, purchased his present farm, which is situated on section 7, Forestville township. It is pleasantly and conveniently located near the town of Maplewood, so that the advantages of town life are easily secured, while the opportunities of rural life are also enjoyed. He is enterprising in his methods, is a diligent worker and now has a fine farm from which he annually derives a substantial income, owing to the care and labor he bestows upon the fields.

In 1901 Mr. Dettmann was united in marriage to Miss Bertha Myers, a daughter of Fred Myers, a native of Germany. Mrs. Dettmann was born in Hartford, Wisconsin, and by her marriage has become the mother of a daughter,

Pearl. Mr. and Mrs. Dettmann hold membership with the Lutheran church of Forestville and their influence is given on the side of right, progress and improvement. He does not seek to figure prominently in public affairs, however, but gives his undivided attention to his farm work and his persistency of purpose has brought him his success.

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#### CHARLES RUCKERT.

Charles Ruckert, an enterprising merchant of Ellison Bay, was born in Germany, August 2, 1866, and when two years of age his father died. Afterward his mother married again and the family came to America in 1871, settling at Racine, Wisconsin. In 1874 a removal was made to Rowleys Bay, in Door county, and a year later another removal was made to Sister Bay, where the family home was maintained for four years. On the expiration of that period they came to Ellison Bay.

Charles Ruckert has been a resident of America since a little lad of five summers and during the greater part of the period has resided in Wisconsin, his residence in Door county covering forty-three years. Here he attended the district schools as opportunity offered, but his chance of getting an education was somewhat limited for it was necessary that he provide for his own support from early boyhood. He began working in the woods at that time and for eight years was a teamster. He was ambitious, however, to make progress in a business way and carefully saved his earnings until his economy and industry had brought him sufficient capital to enable him to open a hotel when twenty-one years of age. He established his hostelry at Ellison Bay, where he remained for ten years, successfully conducting business there. He then sold out and turned his attention to general merchandising, establishing a store, which he still conducts. He carries a well selected line of goods and has a popular general merchandise establishment. His business methods are thoroughly reliable and he is enterprising in all that he undertakes, while his efforts to please his patrons have gained for him a liberal patronage. In addition to conducting his store he owns a forty acre farm near the village, on which his parents reside.

On the 2d of October, 1887, Mr. Ruckert was married to Mrs. Bertha Sultz Metcalf, a native of Neenah, Wisconsin, and they have become the parents of five children, Gertie, Ella, Abbie, Walter and Arthur. By her former marriage Mrs. Ruckert had one child, May, who is now the wife of John Donovan of Neenah, Wisconsin.

In his political views Mr. Ruckert is a republican and has always been interested in the welfare and progress of the community in which he resides. He has taken an active part in advancing the county's upbuilding and improvement and has ever been a stalwart champion of the cause of public education. He has filled the office of school treasurer but has preferred that his public service should be done in a private capacity rather than as an office holder. He belongs to the Norwegian Lutheran church and also to the Mystic Workers of the World. His pronounced characteristics are such as have won for him high regard. He is a thoroughly reliable business man, a progressive citizen and a loyal friend and

that his life has ever been upright and honorable is indicated in the fact that his stanchest friends are those who have known him through the greater part of his residence in this county.

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#### CARL VOLKMANN.

Among the residents of Egg Harbor township who are of German birth is Carl Volkmann, who was born April 29, 1848, and is a son of Laven and Caroline (Bull) Volkmann, who were natives of Germany, where they spent their entire lives, the father passing away there in 1867, while the mother survived for three decades, dying in 1897.

Carl Volkmann was reared and educated in Germany and was a foreman on a large farm in that country until 1886, when he came to America and located at Carlsville in Door county. The following year he purchased his present place of two hundred acres, which is situated on sections 11 and 14, Egg Harbor township, the buildings being upon the latter section. He at once began to clear and improve the place and his attention has since been given to the cultivation of his farm, which is the expression of his life of well directed energy and thrift. His fields produce good crops and he is successfully engaged in the dairy business, milking fourteen cows. He has good buildings upon his place, well kept fences and the latest improved facilities to carry on his farm work, and in all that he undertakes manifests a progressive spirit.

On the 26th of May, 1882, Mr. Volkmann was united in marriage to Miss Johanna Berndt, by whom he had eleven children, as follows: Ernest, who passed away on the 28th of May, 1913; Edith, a resident of Houston, Texas; Bertha, the wife of August Spittlemeister, an agriculturist of Egg Harbor township; Albert and Henry, who are engaged in farming in Egg Harbor township; Emma, who is the wife of Julius Hass, of Ellison Bay, Door county. Clara, Fred, Emil and Laura, all at home; and Minnie, who gave her hand in marriage to Carl Schultz, a farmer of Egg Harbor township.

Mr. Volkmann gives his political allegiance to the democratic party, while his religious faith is that of the Lutheran church. Such in brief is the history of Carl Volkmann, who for thirty-one years has made his home on this side of the Atlantic. He has benefited by the business conditions here offered and in utilizing them has won a substantial measure of success.

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#### WILLIAM F. WICKMANN.

William F. Wickmann, who was prominent in the development of Detroit Harbor and Washington island along a number of lines, was born in Copenhagen, Denmark, April 14, 1834, and passed away on the 25th day of August, 1910. He was reared and educated in his native country, but in 1855, when twenty-one years old, went to Iceland, where he spent ten years. At the end of that time he came to the United States and arrived in Milwaukee on the 15th of April,

1865. He resided in that city for some time and for a number of years made his home in Chicago, where he was quite prominent in business circles as a real estate broker. In 1870 he induced a number of young men to emigrate to the United States from Iceland and owing to his influence they located on Washington island, Door county, Wisconsin, to which Mr. Wickmann also removed. He took up a homestead here and also became interested in various business projects. He loaded the first boat at Detroit Harbor, its cargo being wood and produce, and he also built an extensive pier, which aided in building up the shipping interests here. He conducted a small general store and traded supplies for cord wood, for which he found a market in more settled communities. He was a man of liberal education, speaking four languages and occupying a position of leadership in his community. He was largely instrumental in inducing Dr. Thoms to come to Washington island and aided him in organizing the First Baptist church. He also had a large part in the organization of school district No. 2 at Detroit Harbor and he served for a considerable period as justice of the peace, as chairman of the township board and as school commissioner. In fact, there was no movement of importance for the upbuilding of his district with which he was not actively connected.

On September 15, 1875, Mr. Wickmann was united in marriage to Mrs. Anna J. Carlsted, nee Bowman, and they became the parents of the following children: William, who is farming on Washington island; Anne, who is teaching in the public schools of Chicago; Arthur, who resides upon the home place with his mother; and Arnold an electrical engineer living in Houghton, Michigan.

Mr. Wickmann was a republican in his early life but later became an adherent of the prohibition party and did a great deal of effective work in advancing its interests and promoting the cause of temperance. The party of young men who came to America from Iceland through his influence were the first of their nationality to emigrate to this country and it was their favorable reports of conditions here that led to the later Icelandic immigration. The initiative which Mr. Wickmann displayed in that instance characterized him in all relations of life and his death removed a leader from his community.

Mrs. Wickmann still resides upon the homestead and takes a prominent part in the work of women's organizations. She was active in organizing the Detroit Harbor Ladies Society, of which she has served as president continuously and which has erected a fine clubhouse, known as Evergreen Lodge. Her acquaintance is wide and all who have come in close contact with her hold her in high esteem and warm regard.

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#### B. E. MADDEN.

B. E. Madden, county superintendent of schools in Door county, was born June 17, 1893, in Clay Banks township, his parents being James and Ellen (Donlan) Madden, the father a native of the province of Quebec, Canada, while the mother was born in this county. It was in 1865 that the father came to Door county with his parents, who settled in Clay banks township, being among the first residents of that part of the county. James Madden was employed in the

lumber and shingle mills in Door county in early manhood and later invested his savings in land, which he cultivated and improved, continuing the operation of his farm for many years. Later he bought what became known as the old home place of one hundred and twenty-one acres on section 5, Clay Banks township, and has since given his thought and attention to the further development of this property, which he has converted into one of the fine farms of the district. He is also the agent in the southern part of the county for the Farmers Mutual Insurance Company of Door county. His wife is also living at the age of sixty years and has spent her entire life in this county.

B. E. Madden was reared and educated in Clay Banks township and completed his studies in the Sturgeon Bay High school and in the normal school at Oshkosh. He has also had some work at the State University and throughout his entire life he has been a student, reading the best literature and keeping in touch with the trend of modern thought and progress. Taking up the profession of teaching, he was principal of the schools at Ingram, Wisconsin, and afterward accepted the position of principal of the schools in Luxembourge, Kewaunee county, Wisconsin. He also taught for three years in Door county and before completing his last year he was appointed in June, 1917, to fill out an unexpired term in the position of county superintendent, in which capacity he is now creditably serving. He has high ideals in teaching and has won a well earned reputation as a most capable educator.

In politics Mr. Madden maintains an independent course and has never sought political office, preferring to concentrate his thought, attention and energy upon his chosen profession.

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#### ARTHUR W. HERRBOLD.

Arthur W. Herrbold, who is engaged in farming on section 25 Sevastopol township, was born upon the family homestead in that township and bears a name which has been identified with agricultural progress since the pioneer days of the county. His birth occurred on the 28th of March, 1886, and he is a son of Jacob and Amelia (Wolff) Herrbold, natives of Washington and Ozaukee counties, Wisconsin. They were married in Washington county and in 1884 became residents of Door county. The father bought the south one hundred acres of the northeast quarter of section 25, Sevastopol township, and as soon as possible cleared it and brought it under cultivation. For many years he devoted his time and energy to farming and still resides upon the place although since 1909 he has left its operation to others and has concentrated his attention upon his duties as business manager of the Door County Seed Company, of which he is also a stockholder. He is one of the substantial men of his community and his success is proof of his business ability, for he began his career empty handed. In religious faith he is a German Lutheran. To him and his wife have been born ten children, of whom four died when young. A daughter Alma became the wife of Charles Zahn, of Sturgeon Bay, and passed away, leaving a son Carl, who makes his home with Mr. and Mrs. Herrbold. The other five children survive, namely: Arthur W., of this review; Adeline, now Mrs.



ARTHUR W. HERRBOLD





Herman Zahn, of Sturgeon Bay; Minnie, who married George Voeks, of Valmy, Sevastopol township; Arnold, likewise a resident of that township; and Louise, who is now Mrs. Edward Delcorps, of Ellison Bay.

At the usual age Arthur W. Herrbold entered the early district schools and remained a pupil therein until he was fifteen years old, when he began working for his father. He so continued until the early part of 1917, when he invested his savings in the home farm and in another tract of land comprising the north-west quarter of the northwest quarter of section 32, Sevastopol township, which also belonged to his father. All the land is under cultivation, having been cleared by the father and the son and the fertile soil yields large crops annually.

Mr. Herrbold of this review is a democrat in political belief, but has never cared to take an active part in public affairs. All those who have been brought in close contact with him hold him in high esteem both for his enterprise and his unswerving integrity.

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#### HERMAN R. BAUM.

Herman R. Baum, who concentrates his time and efforts upon the further development and improvement of his excellent farm on section 20, Jacksonport township, was born in the province of Posen, Germany, March 17, 1858, his parents being Charles and Amelia Baum, the former a shepherd on a large estate. The mother died in Germany and the father afterward married Amelia Weigart. By his first marriage he had seven children, of whom five are living: Herman R.; Amelia, who is a widow and resides in Milwaukee; Ludwig, also of Milwaukee; Paulina, the wife of John Hornung, of Milwaukee; and Gusta, the wife of Herman Stenzel, of the same city. The children of the second marriage are: Otto; Hugo; Adolph; and Gustav, all living at New Richmond, Wisconsin; and Hattie, who died in Chicago.

Herman R. Baum enjoyed the opportunities offered in the public schools of his native country to the age of fourteen years, after which he began working for his father and others, his time being thus passed until he reached the age of twenty-two. By that time he had saved a sum sufficient to bring him to the United States and thus realized a hope which he had long cherished, for the stories which reached him concerning the opportunities of the new world awakened in him a desire to try his fortune on this side of the Atlantic. He made his way first to St. Louis but after a brief period went to Chicago and a few days later he started on foot for Niles, Michigan, one hundred and five miles distant. There he worked on the construction of a railroad for a short time and afterward went to Port Huron, Canada, and later to Cleveland, Ohio, being employed in various ways. While in Cleveland he worked for the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad Company, and there suffered a severe accident, being run over by the cars, which necessitated the amputation of the right leg at the knee. For some years thereafter he continued in the employ of the railroad company, working as an assistant cook on the construction train. All the while he was saving his money and in 1887 he left the railroad company and came to Door county, where he purchased eighty acres of land on section 20, Jacksonport township,

which had been partly cleared but was poorly improved by the former owner. He cleared the remainder and has since added splendid improvements to the place, erecting a commodious residence, also large barns and sheds for the shelter of grain and stock. He has also added another eighty acre tract and thus has one hundred and sixty acres on his home place.

His father and stepmother came to the United States two years after his arrival and lived in Milwaukee until Mr. Baum located in Door county when they came to live with him and here the father passed away in 1894, his remains being interred in the Lutheran cemetery in Jacksonport township. His stepmother, however, still resides with Mr. Baum, who has never married. His has been a most active and useful life and hard work has comprised the foundation of his success. He started out empty handed and he is today the possessor of an excellent farm property, all the improvements having been made by himself. His life record should serve to inspire and encourage others, showing what may be accomplished when one has the will to dare and to do.

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#### ALEX JOHNSON.

Since he reached the age of seven years Alex Johnson has been a resident of Door county and is now conducting a successful business in blacksmithing in Sturgeon Bay. He was born in Sweden, in October, 1859, a son of Lars and Margaret Johnson, who were natives of Sweden. The father was a farmer in his native country but in 1866 he bade adieu to friends and sailed with his family for the new world, establishing his home in Door county. He first took up his abode in Baileys Harbor, where he went to work cutting wood. He afterward removed to Ellison Bay, in Liberty Grove township, where he purchased land which he cleared and developed, continuing its cultivation throughout his remaining days, becoming one of the well known and well-to-do agriculturists of the community. He passed away in 1897, having for many years survived his wife, whose death occurred in 1871.

Alex Johnson whose name introduces this review was but seven years of age when his parents came to the new world, so that he acquired practically all of his education at Ellison Bay. When old enough he went to work at teaming and followed that pursuit until he attained his majority. He afterward learned the blacksmith's trade at Jacksonport and followed the trade there for a year in the employ of others. Later he rented a shop at Ellison Bay, which he conducted for twelve years, and on the expiration of that period he came to Sturgeon Bay, where he built a fine large shop in 1899. Here he has since conducted business and enjoys an extensive patronage, which makes his undertaking one of profitable proportions.

In October, 1885, Mr. Johnson was united in marriage to Miss Julia Anderson, of Ephraim, Wisconsin, and to them have been born four children, namely: Earl, who is a bookkeeper with the Fruit Exchange of Sturgeon Bay; Willis, who is a vulcanizer at Sturgeon Bay; Harriet, at home; and Elden, deceased.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are connected with the Moravian church and

fraternally he is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America. His political allegiance is given to the republican party but he has never been an office seeker, preferring to give his undivided time, thought and attention to his business affairs, and that he has been successful is indicated in the well equipped shop which he owns and his fine home which he built on C street. He has a wide acquaintance in this county, where his entire life has been passed, and many friends entertain for him warm and enduring regard.

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#### EDWARD N. GAGNON.

Edward N. Gagnon has been a lifelong resident of Door county. He was born July 29, 1887, on the farm on section 1, Egg Harbor township, on which he still resides, his parents being Eugene and Josephine (Seymour) Gagnon, who were natives of Canada. The father followed the occupation of farming in that country until 1883, when he crossed the border into the United States and established his home in Door county, Wisconsin, purchasing the farm on which his son Edward now resides, the place comprising one hundred and sixty acres on sections 1 and 2, Egg Harbor township, with the buildings on the latter section. Eugene Gagnon at once began to further clear and develop the property. Trees and brush were cut down and the land placed under the plow, good harvests being ultimately gathered. In all of his farm work he was practical and progressive and his efforts brought good results. He continued to successfully cultivate his farm until 1914, when he retired from active business life and removed to the village of Egg Harbor, where he resided until his demise, passing away November 14, 1916, when sixty-two years of age. His widow survives and is still living in the village.

Edward N. Gagnon was reared on the old homestead place, acquired his education in the district schools and after attaining his majority engaged in farming in partnership with his father, their business relation being maintained until the father's retirement, when Edward N. Gagnon purchased the home place which he had helped to improve and develop. His attention has since been given to its further operation and he has one of the most attractive farms of the county, equipped with all modern conveniences and accessories. The good buildings, the well kept fences, the carefully tilled fields and the high grades of stock all speak of the spirit of enterprise which actuates him in whatever he undertakes. He makes a specialty of handling pure bred Holstein cattle and milks twenty-three cows, conducting an extensive and profitable dairy business.

On the 17th of October, 1914, Mr. Gagnon was married to Miss Laura Larauche, a daughter of Charles and Delia (Baraboo) Larauche, who were born in Canada and in 1883 became residents of Door county. They took up their abode in the village of Egg Harbor, where the father conducted a blacksmith shop for many years but later engaged in merchandising, which business he still follows. Mr. and Mrs. Gagnon have two children: Eugenia Marie, born September 20, 1915; and Cecelia M., born March 27, 1917.

The religious faith of the family is that of the Catholic church and Mr. Gagnon is connected with the Catholic Order of Foresters. His political endorse-

ment is given the democratic party but he does not seek the honors nor emoluments of public office as a reward for party fealty. His entire thought and attention are concentrated upon his farm and his close application and indefatigable energy have resulted in the development of a most excellent property.

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### FRANK PIERRE.

One by one the early settlers and honored pioneers of Door county are passing away, but they have left behind a splendid monument to their memory in the work which they have done in the development and upbuilding of the district in which they lived. Well known among the valued pioneer residents of Door county was Frank Pierre, who was born in Nevoque, Belgium, in October, 1836, and whose life record spanned the intervening years to the 14th of June, 1914. He spent the first eighteen years of his life in his native country and then came with his parents to the new world, the family home being established at Alton, Illinois, where the father passed away. With his mother and brother Alex he made his way northward to Brussels, Wisconsin, in the year 1858. Here the two brothers erected a little brush shanty for their mother to live in and they at once began work to provide for their own and her support, being employed as farm hands in the southern part of the state. In addition to his work in the fields Frank Pierre also devoted two years to employment in a brickyard in Milwaukee and his brother was similarly employed. Their pay amounted to fifty cents per day and this did not include board. At intervals the young men would walk from Milwaukee to Brussels in order to look after their mother, and for many years the brothers were closely associated in their interests. The death of Alex Pierre, who was four years the senior of Frank, occurred in Appleton, Wisconsin, at the age of seventy-eight years.

It was in 1861 that Frank Pierre married Miss Angelique De Keyser, after which he opened a tavern at Brussels. About that time he was appointed postmaster of the town and acceptably filled that position for thirty-eight years. He also formed a partnership with Anton Virlee and established and operated a grist mill under the firm name of the Pierre-Virlee Company. In addition to manufacturing flour they engaged in the mercantile business, which also proved a profitable undertaking, and their partnership continued for about a quarter of a century. Mr. Pierre was a prominent and leading figure in Brussels for many years, his close application, his unremitting energy and his excellent business qualifications winning for him a substantial measure of success. About twelve years prior to his death he retired from business and removed to Beaver, Wisconsin, where several of his children resided, and three months prior to his demise he went to Abrams, Oconto county, on a visit, and while there became ill, his death resulting on the 14th of June, 1914, when he had reached the age of seventy-seven years, seven months and seventeen days.

Mr. and Mrs. Pierre were the parents of nine children, six sons and three daughters, all of whom are yet living: Gabriel, who is in business in Brussels; Alphonse, a grain merchant of Oconto; Joseph, also living in Brussels; Frank, a resident of Calina, Colorado, and manager and part owner of the Richmond

gold mine, his brother Alphonse being the other partner; Jule, who is postmaster at Brussels; Henry, living at Beaver, Wisconsin; Mrs. Mary Bondhuhn; Ellen, of Abrams; and Mrs. Frank Svoboda, of Beaver. Mr. Pierre was ambitious that his children should have good educational opportunities and thus provided them a good start in life. Moreover, he prospered in his undertakings and left his family a comfortable competence.

Mr. Pierre served as the first chairman of the town of Brussels, at which time the town included what is now Gardner and Union townships. He served in that position for two terms but could not be again induced to hold that or any other public office. When he passed away his remains were returned to Brussels for interment and many friends gathered to pay their last tribute of respect to him whom they had long known and honored, as he had taken a most prominent and helpful part in the upbuilding of the district in which he lived.

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### LOUIS DELFOSSE.

Louis Delfosse needs no introduction to the readers of this volume, for he belongs to one of the representative pioneer families of Door county that has long been connected with the development of this section of the state. He, too, has borne his part in the work of general improvement and progress and is now actively identified with farming, having one hundred and sixty acres of rich and arable land in Union township, which he carefully and systematically cultivates with good results. He was born in Belgium, April 5, 1851. His parents brought their family to the United States during his boyhood days and the family home was established in Gardner township, Door county, Wisconsin. At a later period the father purchased land in Union township. It was a tract of timber and he at once began to clear away the trees and brush in order to develop the fields. He built a log house and continued to reside upon that place throughout his remaining days, his death occurring in 1877. His widow survived for more than two decades and died in 1899.

Louis Delfosse spent his early youth in the land of his nativity and then came with his parents to the new world, so that he was partially reared in Gardner township. He assisted his father in the arduous task of developing the home farm and continued to work with him for a number of years. His educational opportunities were those afforded by his native land and by this county and in the school of experience he has since learned many valuable lessons. He has never sought to change his occupation but has continued to follow in the line of life in which he was reared. He is now the owner of an excellent farm of one hundred and sixty acres, a part of which he cleared, and to this he has added many modern improvements. He has erected new buildings and now has a model farm of the twentieth century, lacking in none of the conveniences and accessories which render farm work less arduous and at the same time add to comfort.

In 1877 Mr. Delfosse was united in marriage to Miss Julia Larose, a daughter of Timmie and Mary (Welkie) Larose. She was born in Belgium and came to the United States with her parents in babyhood, the family home being established in Union township, Door county, Wisconsin, where her father purchased

a farm upon which both he and his wife spent their remaining days. They were among the earliest settlers in this section of the state and no phase of pioneer life was unfamiliar to them. It was necessary to make their way through the dense forests when they traveled from place to place and frequently the path had to be blazed. There was plenty of wild game, so that the early settlers had no difficulty in obtaining meat for the family board. It was amid such pioneer surroundings that Mrs. Delfosse was reared. By her marriage she has become the mother of eight children, Theresa, Victor, Eli, John, Louis, Mary, Tilda and Sylvian.

Industry and enterprise have ever characterized the Delfosse family and Louis Delfosse manifests the qualities of energy and industry which have made the family a valuable factor in the upbuilding of this section of the state.

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#### CARL E. ODEN.

Carl E. Oden is meeting with gratifying success as a farmer of Forestville township and is one of the enterprising and popular young agriculturists of Door county. He was born upon the farm he is now operating April 22, 1889, a son of Frank and Matilda (Guldbrandson) Oden. The father was born in Fagerhult, Kalmar län, Sweden, August 16, 1855, but spent the greater part of his boyhood and youth at Stockholm. In 1880, when about twenty-five years of age, he emigrated to the United States and made his way at once to Clay Banks township, Door county, Wisconsin. After spending two years in the lumber camps he sailed on the Great Lakes for a time, after which he purchased a farm on section 13, Forestville township. The remainder of his life was devoted to the cultivation and improvement of that place and there he died when fifty-four years of age. In 1882 he was married to Miss Matilda Guldbrandson, a daughter of Knute and Sophia (Johnson) Guldbrandson and a native of Sweden. Her father engaged in farming on a large estate in that country and passed away there, as did his wife. To Mr. and Mrs. Frank Oden were born five children, namely, Frances, Henry, Elvira, Carl E. and Rose. In December, 1915, Mrs. Oden was united in marriage to Austin Christianson and they are living retired at Sawyer.

Carl E. Oden grew to manhood upon the home farm and the success which he has gained as an agriculturist is largely due to the excellent training which he received under his father. From early boyhood he shared in the work of the farm and by the time that he reached mature years he was thoroughly familiar with practical methods of cultivating the soil and caring for the stock. He received good educational advantages, as after attending the district schools he became a student in the State Normal School at Stevens Point. During the following year he was employed at Battle Creek, Michigan, after which he returned to Door county and took up his residence upon the home farm, which he has since operated. He is systematic and businesslike in the management of his work and is always ready to profit by the discoveries made by investigators relative to farming. His well directed labors are rewarded by good profits and he is rapidly accumulating a competence. Mr. Oden is a progressive in politics

but has been too busy to aspire to public office. He possesses a personality that readily wins and retains friends and all who have had dealings with him honor him for his ability and his unswerving integrity.

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### HENRY GATTIE.

Henry Gattie is the well known lighthouse keeper of the Baileys Harbor Range lights. He was born in Lievin, France, September 25, 1865, a son of Xavier and Sadie (Jacquart) Gattie, who were also natives of Lievin. The father was a millwright by trade and followed that pursuit in his native country until 1870, when he determined to try his fortune in the new world and crossed the Atlantic to the United States, establishing his home first at Red River, Wisconsin. There he was employed as a millwright by the Scofield Company and in 1877 he removed to Sturgeon Bay, where he continued in the employ of the same company, remaining with that corporation until his death, which occurred in 1915. His long connection with the company indicated most clearly his capability and trustworthiness. He was one of their oldest and most valued employes and was retained in their service until his demise, which occurred March 29, 1915, when he was eighty-two years of age. For a considerable period he had survived his wife, who passed away in 1904, at the age of seventy-six years. His political allegiance was given to the republican party and he proved a loyal citizen of his adopted land, rendering his first allegiance to this country.

Henry Gattie spent his youth in Red River and in Sturgeon Bay and his educational opportunities were those afforded by the public schools in the two cities. Throughout his business career he has been connected with the lighthouse service. He accepted a position as assistant at the lighthouse on the Sturgeon Bay canal for ten years and later was transferred to the Baileys Harbor lighthouse, where he has remained continuously since the 14th of May, 1896. The same spirit of loyalty which characterized his father is manifest in the son, who has now occupied his present position for twenty-one years.

In 1891 Mr. Gattie was united in marriage to Miss Eva Hendricks, a daughter of Adam and Ernestina (Sherman) Hendricks. She was born in Germany and came with her parents to the United States, the family home being established at Baileys Harbor, where they cast in their lot with the first settlers. Her father was a farmer of this locality and at the time of the Civil war put aside all business and personal considerations and responded to the country's call for troops, enlisting as a soldier of the Union army. He rendered active duty at the front throughout the period of hostilities and when the country no longer needed his aid he returned home and was given a land grant. He then began the development of the farm upon which he and his wife spent their remaining days.

Mr. and Mrs. Gattie are well known residents of Baileys Harbor and have many friends in this section. Aside from his connection with the lighthouse service Mr. Gattie is the president of the Peninsula Automobile Company of Sturgeon Bay and is also engaged in dealing in farm implements. In a word

he is an enterprising and progressive business man, alert, wide-awake and energetic, and he carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes. His sterling qualities are many and have won for him the high regard of a large circle of friends.

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#### AUGUST SCHAEFER.

August Schaefer, an energetic and prosperous farmer residing on section 26, Sevastopol township, was born in that township on the 11th of March, 1875. His parents, Cuno and Devota Schaefer, were natives of Germany, but were married in Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin. To them were born eight children, of whom four died when small and four are still living, namely: Anton, a resident of Sturgeon Bay township; August, of this review; William, who is also living in Sevastopol township; and Mary, who is now the wife of Louis Deutch, of Nasewaupsee township. Cuno Schaefer for two years worked in the saw mills in Sturgeon Bay in the summers and in the timber during the winter months, but at the end of that time he purchased the north half of the southwest quarter and the south half of the northwest quarter of section 25, Sevastopol township, all of which was then covered with timber. At length he sold the south half of the northwest quarter, but retained the title to the other tract, which he cleared and improved. He engaged in farming his land until his death, which occurred on the 18th of September, 1905, his wife surviving until February 19, 1910. Both are buried in the Catholic cemetery on section 33, Sevastopol township. He was a strong democrat in his political belief but did not seek public office. At the time of his demise he was in comfortable circumstances as the result of his industry and good management.

August Schaefer received but a limited education since the school system in this part of the state was not well developed at the time of his boyhood and moreover, his labors were needed in the work of developing a good farm from wild land. The training which he received in the agricultural work under his father well fitted him for the duties of life, and he has never regretted his choice of farming as an occupation. He, his brother William and his father operated the home place on shares and purchased additional land, their farm comprising three hundred and twenty acres at the time of the father's death. The place remained undivided until after the mother passed away and then our subject received title to the east half of the southeast quarter of section 23, and the northeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section 26. In 1907 he erected good buildings upon the land which he now owns, and his mother made her home with him after the father's death until she too was called away. In 1909 his barn was burned but he replaced it with a modern one. His farm ranks among the most highly developed places in Sevastopol township and from his rich and highly cultivated fields he harvests good crops. He displays sound judgment in the direction of his affairs and his continued success is assured.

Mr. Schaefer was married June 13, 1911, to Miss Mary Ludovski, a daughter of Frank and Mary Ludovski, natives of Bohemia, where the father passed away. Mrs. Schaefer came to America in 1910 and a few months later was joined in





MR. AND MRS. CUNO SCHAEFER



this country by her mother, who resides with her. Mrs. Schaefer's sister, Anna, also resides at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Schaefer. To this marriage have been born four children, namely: Margaret, Julia, Mary and Louis.

Mr. Schaefer casts his ballot in favor of the democratic party but otherwise he does not take part in politics. He is a member of the Catholic Institute and is loyal to the teachings of the church. He has founded his success upon hard work and the most careful attention to all details of his business and ranks as one of the leading agriculturists of his locality.

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#### CHARLES G. ANDERSON.

Charles G. Anderson, a member of the town board of Egg Harbor and now actively and successfully engaged in general farming on section 20, Egg Harbor township, has practically devoted his entire life to general agricultural pursuits. He was born in June, 1884, in the township which is still his home, his parents being Lars and Stina Anderson, who were natives of Sweden. The father was a farmer by occupation in his native country. When in middle life he left that land and crossed the briny deep to the new world, settling in Door County, Wisconsin. He and his father purchased the farm upon which his son, Charles G., now resides. It was then a tract of eighty acres of land situated on section 20, Egg Harbor township. With characteristic energy he began to clear and develop the place and continued to cultivate it throughout his remaining days. His efforts wrought a marked transformation in the appearance of his farm, for he brought the wild land under a high state of cultivation and annually gathered good crops as the result of his care and attention. He passed away December 24, 1884. His widow now makes her home with her son Charles.

The usual experiences of the farm-bred boy were those that came to Charles G. Anderson in his youthful days. He was reared under the parental roof and was educated in the schools of Egg Harbor township. To some extent he worked as a farm hand for others but spent the greater part of his life upon the old home place and early became familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops. In 1903 he bought the farm and has greatly improved it since that time. He has cleared about twenty acres of the land and has brought all of his fields under a high state of cultivation, raising the cereals best adapted to soil and climatic conditions. He is now milking five cows and intends soon to engage quite extensively in the dairy business. He raises high grade stock and everything about his place indicates his progressive spirit, his enterprising methods and his firm determination to win success. His farm presents a most neat and attractive appearance and his work is bringing excellent results.

On the 3d of February, 1913, Mr. Anderson was united in marriage to Miss Florence Anderson and they have become the parents of two children: Leon, born February 24, 1915; and Meriald, born in January, 1917.

Mr. Anderson has been a member of the town board of Egg Harbor township since the spring of 1917. He has always given his political support to the republican party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise and he

has ever been loyal to its best interests. His religious faith is that of the Lutheran church and again his characteristic loyalty is manifest in his devotion to the cause. His entire life has won him the warm regard and confidence of his fellowmen, so that he is widely known in Egg Harbor township.

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#### EDGAR C. THORP.

A most progressive business man is Edgar C. Thorp, the proprietor of the Thorp Hotel. Various business interests claim his attention and profit by his cooperation, for he is a man of keen discernment, of notable sagacity, of unfaltering enterprise and of indefatigable energy. Moreover, he is a representative of one of the old pioneer families of the county and the name of Thorp has been identified with the development of this section of the state from the earliest period.

On the 18th of October, 1860, Edgar C. Thorp was born of the marriage of Asa and Eliza (Atkinson) Thorp, the former a native of Oswego, New York, while the latter was born in Lincolnshire, England. It was in the year 1844 that Asa Thorp came to Wisconsin, settling in Dodge county. He was a cooper by trade and followed that pursuit in Racine, Wisconsin. He spent the years 1844 and 1845 in Brown county, Wisconsin, and in 1846 removed to St. Martin's Island. Later he became a resident of Rock Island and thence came to Fish Creek. He took up government land and founded the village of Fish Creek and also built the first pier in Door county. He afterward returned to Dodge county, Wisconsin, where he engaged in farming for nine years, and then again came to Fish Creek. Here he turned his attention to merchandising and also operated a dock. In those early days there was only a blazed trail between this point and Green Bay, where supplies were obtained. At a later period Mr. Thorp engaged in the hotel business in a small way and continued to make his home at Fish Creek throughout his remaining days, his death occurring November 7, 1907, when he was eighty-eight years of age. For a decade he had survived his wife, who passed away April 28, 1897, at the age of seventy-four, the county thus losing two of its most valued and highly respected pioneer people.

Edgar C. Thorp was reared and educated at Fish Creek and also attended the Eastman College at Poughkeepsie, New York, where he pursued a commercial course. He always remained at home with his parents and assisted his father in business. In 1895 he became connected with hotel interests and added to the original hotel which his father had erected in 1862. Today he has one of the excellent hotels in Door county and also has eight cottages, so that he can accommodate one hundred guests. He has continuously conducted this hotel since enlarging the original property and has made it a most attractive summer resort. In addition to his hotel he owns fifteen acres and his memory compasses the period when the Thorp family owned the entire shore in this region. Mr. Thorp also has an orchard of two hundred trees, which was planted by his father, Asa Thorp. In addition to conducting the hotel he carries on an automobile business, having the agency for the Studebaker, Overland, Chevrolet and Ford cars. He has made large sales annually and the business is proving a

profitable undertaking. He is also a stockholder and a director of the Door County State Bank.

On the 1st of January, 1895, Mr. Thorp was united in marriage to Miss Matilda Johnson, a daughter of John and Anna (Peterson) Johnson, who were natives of Sweden and came to America in 1867, settling in Gibraltar township, Door county, where the father purchased land in what is now the state park. He cleared and improved the tract and transformed it into productive fields. However, he finally went to Washington island and made his home there with his son. He died in April, 1892, having for five years survived his wife, who passed away in August, 1887. To Mr. and Mrs. Thorp have been born five children, namely: Mildred, who married C. O. Helgeson, a member of the National Guard, at present stationed at Camp Douglas, Wisconsin; Leland; Harold; Evelyn; and Roland, who died in 1906 at the age of seven months.

On reaching adult age Mr. Thorp voted with the democratic party and has never seen occasion to change his political allegiance. He has served as chairman of the town board of Gibraltar for ten years and his father was for thirty years in the office of assessor. Mr. Thorp is a Baptist in religious faith and fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Knights of the Maccabees. His entire life has been passed at Fish Creek and he is a well known figure in this section of the county, both by reason of his progressive citizenship and his enterprise as a business man. He has sought success along well defined lines and his labors have been crowned with an honorable and richly deserved reward.

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#### AUGUST JOHNSON.

Sweden has furnished many citizens of worth to Door county, among which number is August Johnson, living on section 32, Jacksonport township. He has displayed the usual spirit of industry and determination which characterizes the people of his country and has worked diligently in the attainment of the success which is now his. Born in Sweden September 25, 1846, he is a son of John and Stina (Isaacson) Anderson, who were farming people and reared a family of nine children, of whom August was the third in order of birth. Five of the number died in childhood and those who survived are: August; John, now a resident of Portland, Oregon; Breta (Bertha), the deceased wife of Otto Larson of Sweden; and Mary, who was the wife of John Anderson and occupied the old home in Sweden until her death.

August Johnson acquired a common school education, pursuing his studies to the age of fourteen years, after which he worked at home until he reached the age of twenty-five. He then came alone to the United States with Door county as his destination. He first made his way to Ephraim, where he was employed by others for a short period and then went to Ellison Bay, where he remained until 1875. In that year he took up his abode in Jacksonport township, purchasing eighty acres of timber land, and thus there confronted him the arduous task of clearing the place before it could be brought under the plow. At length he accomplished the work of developing and improving the farm,

which he eventually sold. He then bought another tract of land, which he also cleared and improved, and in 1901 he purchased the west half of the northeast quarter of section 32, and the southwest quarter of the southwest quarter of section 29, in Jacksonport township, thus becoming the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of land upon which he yet resides. He has cleared three different farms in the county and has thus contributed in substantial measure to the work of upbuilding and development.

On the 25th of September, 1874, Mr. Johnson was married to Miss Mary Anderson, a daughter of Lars and Gertrude Anderson, who were early settlers of Jacksonport township but have now passed away. They have become the parents of fifteen children, all of whom are yet living: Helen, the wife of William C. Brown, of Chicago; Gustav, of Cabinet, Idaho; Olive, the wife of Gus Fleming, of Sturgeon Bay; Fred, who is living in Madeline, Washington; Leonard, who is with Fred on a homestead claim; Anna, the widow of Frank McCourt, of Chicago; Nora, now the wife of Arthur Weiderman, living near Summer Cove in Saskatchewan, Canada; Arthur and Michael, at home; Lillian and Lena, also at home; Josephine, the wife of William Simon, of Jacksonport township; and Harry, Elsie and Rossville, all at home.

In religious faith Mr. Johnson is a Lutheran, while his political support is given to the republican party. He has filled several local offices. He was township assessor for seventeen consecutive years, was road overseer for seven years, and has been school clerk for the past fifteen years. His public duties have ever been discharged with promptness and fidelity and he has labored earnestly to advance the progress and welfare of his community. His sterling worth has long been recognized by his fellow townsmen, and Door county numbers him among its substantial and valued agriculturists.

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#### EDWARD H. HENSCHEL.

Edward H. Henschel, a well-to-do farmer residing on section 35, Egg Harbor township, was born in Sheboygan county, Wisconsin, May 6, 1872, the son of Herman and Maria (Maurer) Henschel. The former was born in Germany and the latter in the vicinity of Milwaukee in 1849. When only six years old the father was brought to America by his parents, who settled near Milwaukee. As soon as he was old enough Herman Henschel began farming in Sheboygan county on land which he had purchased from his father and which he improved and cultivated until 1903. In that year he came to Door county and purchased forty acres of land in Egg Harbor township, which he subsequently sold. He then bought a twenty-acre tract in Sturgeon Bay township and resided thereon until his death, which occurred in February, 1915, when he was seventy-two years old. His widow is still living at the age of seventy-three years and is a resident of Sheboygan.

Edward H. Henschel was reared in his native county and is indebted to its public schools for his education. He remained with his parents until he reached the age of twenty-nine years. He then, in 1902, removed to Door county and bought a farm of eighty acres on section 35, Egg Harbor township, and forty



EDWARD H. HENNIEL AND FAMILY





acres across the road in Sevastopol township. Before he could raise any crops it was necessary to clear the land, and all the improvements upon the farm have been placed there since it came into his possession. His fields are well cultivated and buildings are all of modern design and substantial structure. In addition to general farming he breeds full-blooded Ayrshire cattle and milks about fifteen cows. His dairy interests have proved exceptionally prosperous, but he also receives a good income from the sale of grain.

Mr. Henschel was married in April, 1901, to Miss Mary Lenhart, a daughter of Jacob and Catherine (Reuther) Lenhart, a native of Germany. They removed, however, to America many years ago and located in Manitowoc county, Wisconsin, where the father bought a tract of land, to the improvement and cultivation of which he devoted his time until his demise. He reached the venerable age of eighty years and passed away in December, 1905. The mother, who makes her home with Mr. and Mrs. Henschel, is now eighty-five years of age. To Mr. and Mrs. Henschel have been born five children. Harry, whose birth occurred March 4, 1902; Flora, who was born July 28, 1903; Ruby, May 30, 1905; Clarence, July 20, 1909; Raymond, June 1, 1911.

The republican party has a staunch supporter in Mr. Henschel, and he has always taken a keen interest in public affairs although he has never been an office seeker. He is a member of the Lutheran church and in its teachings are found the principles which govern his conduct.

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#### ARTHUR E. RUDOLPH.

Arthur E. Rudolph, a well known citizen of Sevastopol township, who owns and operates a fine farm on section 9, was born in Liberty Grove township, this county, on the 14th of December, 1872, his parents being Gottlieb and Henrietta Rudolph, natives of Germany, where they continued to reside for some time after their marriage. There one child was born to them, Bertha, now the wife of Edward Nolle, of Eau Claire, Wisconsin. On their immigration to the new world they first located in Chicago, where they spent three or four years and then came to Door county, Wisconsin, being among the first to locate in the northern part of this county. There the father purchased a fine farm of two hundred and seventy acres in Liberty Grove township, upon which he made many improvements. He built the first dock at Ephraim for the shipping of wood and engaged in that business in connection with farming, meeting with marked success in his undertakings. He died in 1895 and his wife passed away in 1904, both being laid to rest in Sister Bay cemetery. He was a staunch supporter of the republican party and his fellow citizens, recognizing his worth and ability, called upon him to fill many township offices, including that of town clerk, in which capacity he served for a number of years. He was a consistent member of the German Lutheran church and was a man widely and favorably known throughout this community. After coming to the United States two more children were added to the family, these being Julius, a resident of Sevastopol township; and Arthur E.

In the acquirement of an education Arthur E. Rudolph attended the public

schools of this county until eighteen years of age and after laying aside his text-books devoted his entire attention to the operation of the farm. After the death of his father, his mother remained with him on the home place until she, too, passed away. He succeeded to the ownership of the farm on the death of his father and continued to reside thereon until 1912, when he sold the property and bought the west half of the northeast quarter of section 9, Sevastopol township, where he is now living. He is one of the leading farmers of his community and is a man of good business and executive ability. In connection with his agricultural pursuits he is interested in other enterprises and is now president of the Cloverleaf cheese factory.

In 1899 occurred the marriage of Mr. Rudolph and Miss Minnie Staver, a daughter of Julius and Wilhelmina Staver, who were born, reared and married in Germany but later became early residents of Liberty Grove township, this county. Both are now deceased and are buried at Little Sister Bay. To Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph were born two children: Leslie, who died in infancy; and Ivy, at home. The family are identified with the Moravian church and Mr. Rudolph affiliates with the republican party. He has never taken a very active part in public affairs, however, preferring to devote his entire time and attention to his business interests. He is a progressive and up-to-date farmer and success has attended his well directed efforts.

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#### GEORGE O. MANN.

George O. Mann, who is successfully engaged in merchandising in Detroit Harbor, is also connected with other business interests, being president of the telephone company. He was born March 3, 1881, in Iowa, and is a son of Charles E. and Elizabeth (BASFORD) Mann, now residents of Baileys Harbor township, this county. The mother was born in Sevastopol township and is a daughter of George BASFORD. Nine children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Mann, namely: Ed, who is living in Canada; Cora, the wife of Charles GOLL, of Frankfort, Michigan; George O.; Clarence, who is farming in Baileys Harbor township; Clayton, a resident of Michigan; Henry, who is also a farmer of Baileys Harbor township; Bertha, deceased; and Fred L. and Gertrude, both of whom are attending school at Nashville, Tennessee.

George O. Mann began his education in Iowa but when nine years old was brought by his parents to Baileys Harbor township, Door County, Wisconsin, and became a pupil in the public schools here. In early manhood he engaged in teaching, following that profession for four years in Baileys Harbor township and Washington Island. When twenty-two years of age, however, he established himself in business as a merchant at Detroit Harbor and has since devoted his time largely to the management of his store. He carries a well selected stock of general merchandise and his straightforward dealings and enterprise have resulted in building up a gratifying patronage. He has also been the president of the telephone company since its organization and is likewise a director of the creamery company. He is connected with agricultural interests, as he owns sixty-eight and a half acres of fine land, the greater part of which is

cleared and under cultivation. His store was the last one established on the island and although it was quite a small concern at the beginning it has grown in size as the years have passed and is now the equal of establishments found in much larger places. It maintains a position of leadership here and a daily delivery is made over the entire island.

Mr. Mann was married June 1, 1906, to Miss Pearl Richter, a native of Ireland and a daughter of Fred Richter. To this union have been born four children, Fred, Hazel, George and Evelyn. Mr. Mann supports the republican party where national issues are at stake but otherwise votes independently. He has served as a director of school district No. 2 for three years and in that connection has worked consistently for the advancement of educational interests. He is public-spirited to a marked degree and can be counted upon to further in every way possible the progress and upbuilding of his town and county.

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### EDWARD E. SCHREIBER.

Edward E. Schreiber, the popular proprietor of the Nook Hotel at Fish Creek, is a native son of Door county, his birth having occurred in Nasewaupee township in December, 1860. His parents, Charles and Martha Schreiber, were born in Germany but became pioneer settlers of Clay Banks township, Door county, Wisconsin. There the father purchased land, which he operated for several years and then sold. He next removed to Nasewaupee township, where he purchased a farm, to the operation of which he devoted his remaining years. His death occurred in 1877, and his wife died in 1898.

Mr. Schreiber is indebted for his education to the public schools of Door county and gained his training in agricultural work through assisting his father. Following the latter's death he worked for some time in sawmills and did odd jobs, but when eighteen years old purchased a well drilling machine, which he operated for twenty-five years. In 1887 he bought sixty acres of good land in Gibraltar township and after farming a part of the land for four years he removed to Fish Creek, where he has since remained. He erected a hotel on the best corner of the town for business purposes and has since conducted the hostelry, which is known as the Nook Hotel and is well managed and up-to-date. It can accommodate fifty people and no trouble is spared to give the guests the best possible service.

Mr. Schreiber was married in July, 1903, to Miss Lottie Norton, a daughter of Stephen and Rachel (Jarman) Norton, natives of England, who settled in Rubicon, Dodge county, Wisconsin, on their removal to the United States. Two years later they came to Fish Creek, Door county, and the father bought government land in that locality, which he cleared and improved and which he continued to cultivate until his death. He was one of the first men to engage in farming in Gibraltar township and was at once practical and progressive in his work, with the result that he gained a gratifying measure of prosperity. He and his wife were the first couple married in Gibraltar township. He died January 2, 1904, but is survived by his wife. To Mr. and Mrs. Schreiber have been

born four children, namely: Lester, who is engaged in merchandising in Fish Creek; Goldie; Ethel; and Hollis.

Mr. Schreiber gives his stanch support to the republican party as his political beliefs coincide with its principles, but he has never been an aspirant for office. Mrs. Schreiber belongs to the Seventh Day Adventist church and takes an active part in its work. He is acknowledged to be an energetic, alert and successful business man and has also gained recognition for his unswerving integrity.

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#### FRED M. KNUTH.

Fred M. Knuth, the owner of the Clover Dairy Farm on section 24, Nasewaupee township, has been a leader in the development of fine dairy herds in the county and has gained gratifying prosperity. He was born in Germany, December 9, 1863, but when four years old accompanied his parents to America. After living for some time at Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, the family removed to Door county in 1872 and there the father resided for almost four decades, dying December 23, 1910. He is buried in the Shoemaker cemetery. The mother is now living in the Old People's Home at Quincy, Illinois. To them were born the following children: Fred M.; William, who is living in Milwaukee; Frank, an implement dealer of Sawyer, Wisconsin; Augusta, who is now the wife of William Rohan and lives in North Dakota; Sarah, who married John Hannon and resides in North Dakota; David, who is living in Michigan; and August, who is buried in the Shoemaker cemetery.

Fred M. Knuth received a common school education and was reared upon the home farm, working with his father until he attained his majority, when he started out on his own account. By hard work and careful expenditure he acquired sufficient capital to enable him to purchase his farm, which is located on section 24, Nasewaupee township, and which is known as the Clover Dairy Farm. The improvements thereon are among the best in the county and he was the first man to keep Holstein cattle in the county. He is a firm believer in the value of handling only the best stock and has the finest registered herd in the county. The progressiveness and initiative which he has shown in this respect also find expression in even the smallest details of his management of his farming interests and it is but natural that he should receive an unusually large return from his labors.

Mr. Knuth was married January 1, 1891, to Miss Ella Bacchus, who is of English descent and was born in New York. In childhood, however, she accompanied her parents to Door county and has since resided here. Mr. and Mrs. Knuth have become the parents of the following children: Lawrence, born September 3, 1898; Floyd, June 29, 1902; and Jean, December 6, 1904. They also have a foster daughter, Amelia Hughes, whom they have reared since 1911.

Mr. Knuth is a republican in politics and believes it the duty of every good citizen to keep well informed on the questions and issues of the day. He has served as clerk of school district No. 3 in his township and has been a consistent worker in behalf of better schools. Fraternally he is connected with the Inde-



MR. AND MRS. FRED M. KNUTH



pendent Order of Odd Fellows, and he has been active in the work of the Red Cross Society. It is such men as he, energetic and public-spirited, who make for the advancement of a town or county, and he is justly considered among the leading citizens of his community.

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### JOHN C. MURPHY, M. D.

Dr. John C. Murphy, an up-to-date and successful physician and surgeon practicing in Brussels township, was born in Carlton, Kewaunee County, Wisconsin, January 27, 1879. His parents, James and Sarah (Light) Murphy, were born respectively in Ireland and in Carlton, Kewaunee County, this state. The father was only four years old when brought to the United States by his parents, and for two years the family home was maintained in Pennsylvania. Removal was then made to Ohio, in which state the grandfather engaged in railroad work but at length removed to Waukegan, Illinois, and still later to Two Rivers, Wisconsin. He next located at Kewaunee, Wisconsin, where he worked in a mill for some time, and later purchased a farm in Pierce township, Kewaunee county, which he cleared and brought under cultivation. Both he and his wife passed away upon that place. Their son, James Murphy, grew to manhood upon the home farm and after completing the course offered in the district schools became a student in Lawrence University at Appleton, Wisconsin. For some time he was employed as a clerk by Mr. Mashek, the proprietor of a general store in Kewaunee. Deciding to turn his attention to agricultural pursuits, he purchased fifty acres of timber land in Carlton, which he cleared and on which he erected a log house. He prospered as the years passed and at length built a commodious and attractive frame residence, where he and his wife are still living. He has reached the age of seventy-three years and his wife is sixty-one years old.

John C. Murphy was reared upon the homestead and received that thorough training in habits of industry and thrift common to farm bred boys. He entered the public schools at the usual age and supplemented the education there acquired by a commercial course in Valparaiso University at Valparaiso, Indiana. He prepared for teaching in the Oshkosh Normal School and followed that profession at Lincoln, Kewaunee county. In 1907, however, he began the study of medicine in Northwestern University, which conferred upon him the M. D. degree in 1911. He at once located for practice in Brussels township, Door county, where he has since remained, and in the six years that have intervened he has fully demonstrated his ability in his chosen profession. He has the confidence both of the general public and of his brother physicians and his practice is large and representative. He is also serving as health officer of Brussels. He has prospered financially and is a stockholder and director of the Maplewood Bank.

In 1906 Dr. Murphy was united in marriage to Miss Josephine Le Greve, a daughter of Frank and Harriett (Menieur) Le Greve, natives of Belgium, who were early settlers of Brussels township, where Mrs. Murphy was born. By

her marriage she has become the mother of three children, Aaron, Marion and Marjorie.

The Doctor is a democrat in politics and his interest in public affairs indicates that he realizes his responsibilities as a citizen, but he has never sought office, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his profession. He has a wide acquaintance throughout the county and is popular both personally and professionally.

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### WILLIAM A. J. VOEKS.

William A. J. Voeks was born on the 27th of January, 1885, on the farm on section 5, Sevastopol township, where he still resides, a son of William and Lena (Weitermann) Voeks. The father was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in 1859, of German parentage, and was twenty years of age on coming to Door county in 1879. He purchased one hundred and eighty acres of land in Sevastopol township, where our subject now resides, and lived thereon until 1889. In 1883 he married Miss Lena Weitermann, who was born in Two Rivers, Wisconsin, and was educated in the common schools. Her parents were John and Philomena (Yost) Weitermann, who came to this country from Germany. Her mother died in 1869 and was buried in Centerville, Wisconsin, and her father passed away in 1907, being laid to rest in the Lutheran cemetery at Valmy. The children of the Weitermann family were: Augusta, who married Albert Citzowl and died in Perham, Minnesota; Charles, now engaged in farming in Canada; John, deceased, who was a farmer of Sevastopol township, this county, his widow now living in Sturgeon Bay; Lena, who became the wife of William Voeks, Sr.; Emma, the wife of John Richter, of Escanaba, Michigan; Ernest and George, both farmers of Jacksonport township, this county. William A. Voeks is the oldest of the eight children born to his parents, the others being: George L., born October 22, 1886; John F., July 15, 1888; Otto R., December 23, 1890; Dolo, now Mrs. Wm. Anschutz, of Jacksonport township; Alfred B., who was born August 7, 1897, and is now connected with a cheese factory; Adaline, born May 4, 1898; and Caroline, born March 24, 1900, at home. The father was the founder of the Morning Glory cheese factory and established the village of Valmy, being one of the first settlers in the eastern part of Sevastopol township, where the property which he owned is still held by the members of the family. He died in the faith of the German Lutheran church on the 25th of April, 1913, leaving many friends as well as his immediate family to mourn his loss, and he was buried in Bayside cemetery.

William A. Voeks of this review pursued his studies in the common schools of this county until fifteen years of age and then gave his father the benefit of his services in the operation of the home farm for several years. He still resides on that place and has erected thereon a fine modern residence. He is a progressive farmer and is meeting with excellent success in his chosen occupation. On the 27th of February, 1906, Mr. Voeks married Miss Matilda Zitzow, a daughter of Albert and Augusta Zitzow, of Ottertail county, Minnesota, where her father is still living, but her mother is deceased and is buried in the cemetery at Per-



ham, Minnesota. To Mr. and Mrs. Voeks have been born six children, as follows: Pearl; Loretta; Earl; Eloise; Luverne, who died at the age of two years; and Elroy.

Mr. Voeks is now the owner of the northwest quarter of section 5, Sevastopol township, and also has twenty acres of the southwest quarter of the same section. This property he has acquired through the good management of his business affairs and he is now one of the well-to-do citizens of his community. Fraternally he is connected with the Loyal Order of Moose and religiously is identified with the German Lutheran church. The republican party finds in him a staunch supporter of its principles and he gives his aid to any enterprise which he believes will prove of public benefit.

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### HJALMAR RUED HOLAND.

Hjalmar Rued Holand, the author and compiler of the first volume of this History of Door County, was born October 20, 1872, on a farm in the parish of Höland a few miles east of Christiania, Norway. He was the youngest child of Johan Olsen (Fagermoen) and Maren Olsen (Rued). Both of his parents descended from a long line of prosperous landowners and farmers in that part of Norway.

Shortly after the subject of this sketch was born his father sold his property, consisting of three good farms, and with his family moved to the capital, Christiania. He invested his funds in several large tenement buildings and planned to spend his declining years in ease. After a time, however, he was induced to enter into extensive real estate speculations. In 1883 a disastrous panic occurred and he lost everything. The next year the family emigrated to America to start life anew.

Mr. Holand received his common school education in the schools of Chicago. Later he passed through high school and college, paying his way through these years of schooling by his own work. In 1898 he was graduated from the College of Letters and Science in the University of Wisconsin, receiving incidentally the John C. Freeman Scholarship (two hundred and fifty dollars) in English literature. The following year he returned to the university for a post-graduate course and received the degree of Master of Arts in 1899. At this time he was offered a fellowship in Columbia University (six hundred dollars) but declined the honor.

The reason for refusing this opening to a professional career was that he had in the meantime got acquainted with Door county. Being curious to know what this peninsula looked like he one day went down in the vaults of the capitol in Madison where are kept the original field notes of the government surveyors. Scanning through these he came to a description of the shore lands now included in Peninsula State Park. Here he read that the shores were "high and precipitous, rising two and three hundred feet from the water's edge." This sounded so picturesque that he soon made his way to Ephraim to see these "precipitous shores." They proved so charming that he at once made arrangements to buy about two hundred acres.

When he returned to the university he incidentally told of his investment to Dean Henry. The dean told him his investment was well made for Door county would soon come to the front as a great fruit county because of its ideal climate and location. Encouraged by this Mr. Holand hired a crew of men and cleared a number of acres. In the spring of 1899 he planted a large orchard of winter apples—the first commercial orchard in northern Door county.

Up to this time Mr. Holand had not had the slightest thought of becoming a farmer. However, the work of planting fruit, at which he assisted, in those inspiring surroundings, proved so fascinating that all his latent love for the soil, planted by generations of land-tilling ancestors, suddenly awoke. He therefore resolved to settle down on his farm and make it his permanent home. This was done in September, 1900.

While waiting for the fruit trees to grow he now spent some years as a traveling salesman. His territory included the large cities of a dozen states in the middle west. Having by this means paid off his college debts and laid aside a little for the farm he now entered upon historical research work which has been his chief occupation since then.

His first work was a volume of six hundred and forty-two pages, being a History of the Norwegian Immigration. The work was written in the Norwegian language for the benefit of the old Norse pioneers and was published in 1908. It proved very successful having been published in four editions, ten thousand copies. It has had a larger sale than any other work in the Norwegian language published in this country with the exception of church books.

In 1898 a remarkable stone was discovered by a farmer near Kensington, Minnesota, covered with mystic characters. These characters resembled ancient Norse runes in use a thousand years ago. This strange inscription was only partially translated at the time and not being understood it soon was forgotten. Ten years later Mr. Holand came across this stone while on a lecture tour.

The stone was then serving the humble duty of a doorstep to a granary. After a prolonged and thorough study of the inscription he became convinced that it was a genuine runic inscription more than five hundred years old and that it told a remarkable tale of discovery into the interior of America in the year 1362. He published the first complete translation of the inscription and followed it up with a number of articles in historical journals to prove its genuineness.

This inscription now became an object of country-wide interest and Mr. Holand delivered a number of addresses on it before learned societies. In the year 1912 he was also invited to come to France and deliver an address on the stone before the great historical congress held in connection with the famous millennial celebration of the founding of the city of Rouen. He was the guest of the city of Rouen for two weeks and then exhibited the stone and delivered addresses in several of the largest universities of Europe. This remarkable inscription which if genuine will add a new chapter to America's history, is still a subject of great discussion in historical circles. Mr. Holand is now preparing to issue a volume containing all the evidence in the matter.

Mr. Holand was married June 13, 1900, to Miss Theresa Ingersoll of Sparta, Wisconsin, a graduate of the River Falls Normal School. She is descended in a straight line from Richard Ingersoll, who landed in America in 1638. Her

great-grandfather, William Ingersoll, was a chaplain in the Revolutionary army. Mr. and Mrs. Holand have four children: Swanhild I., born March 18, 1901; Johan Harold, born February 21, 1906; Ivar Whitman, born March 18, 1908; and Mildred Valborg, born October 31, 1911.

Mr. Holand is republican in politics. He is a life member of a number of historical societies and one of the curators of the Wisconsin State Historical Society.

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### SAMUEL PERRY.

The Perry Company, hardware dealers, of Forestville, of which Samuel Perry is the president, has built up the largest trade in its line in Door county and has been a factor of no small importance in the development of the commercial interests of Door county. Mr. Perry was born July 27, 1869, and is a son of Mathew and Henrietta (Machinsky) Perry. The father was born in County Tipperary, Ireland, and remained there until he was fifteen years old, when in 1854, in company with his brother Richard M., he set sail for the United States. The ship on which they made the voyage was an old sailing vessel which sprung a leak in a big storm and in order to keep the boat afloat all the passengers had to help at the pumps. At length, twelve weeks after they embarked, the brothers landed in the United States and located near Niagara Falls, New York. A little later they took passage on a boat, named the Lady Elgin, which was bound for Chicago. They got as far as Manitowoc and on investigating conditions in this part of Wisconsin, which was then just being settled, they decided to cast in their lot with this section. Mr. Perry, of this review, came to Forestville township, Door county, by way of Wolf river and took up eighty acres of government land. At that time all farm produce had to be marketed in Manitowoc and the only means of communication was by boat as there were then no roads through the woods. The Indians were still more numerous than the white men and the few settlers in Door county lived many miles apart. Farm work was done with primitive appliances, the flail being used in threshing. Mr. Perry sold his first farm to Charles B. Miller and bought one hundred and sixty acres on section 22. He cleared one hundred acres of this tract and for many years his time was occupied by the operation of his farm. In 1910, however, he retired and the later years of his life were spent at the homes of his son Edward M. and of his daughter Elizabeth. His religious faith was that of the Episcopal church and in politics he was a strong republican. Throughout life he manifested a strong spirit of patriotism and at the time of the Civil war he enlisted in the Union army, becoming a member of Company E, Fourteenth Wisconsin Infantry, in 1861. He had the privilege of serving under both Generals Grant and Sherman and took part in the battle of Shiloh, the siege of Vicksburg and the battle of Atlanta and marched with Sherman to the sea. He was a fifer and remained at the front during the entire period of the war. He had a wide acquaintance in Door county and he lived to see it develop into a splendid agricultural section. His death, which occurred December 5, 1915, was deeply regretted. He had long survived his wife, who died at

the early age of thirty-eight years in March, 1885. She was born in Germany and accompanied her parents to the new world, the family home being first established in Kewaunee county, Wisconsin. Later removal was made to Forestville township, Door county, where the father purchased eighty acres of land and there both he and his wife died. To Mr. and Mrs. Perry were born the following children: Samuel; Mathew, who is the owner of a clothing store in Forestville; Henrietta, the wife of Michael Witt, who resides in Forestville township; John M., a resident of Sturgeon Bay; Edward M., postmaster at Forestville; Elizabeth, a resident of Sturgeon Bay; Thomas, who died in 1894, when fourteen years old; and William, who was born in 1884 and died at the age of seven months.

Samuel Perry passed his boyhood upon the home farm and remembers the log cabin that was the first residence of the family. He received his education in the schools of Forestville and Algoma, and his business experience was received as bookkeeper for the Ahnapsee Furniture Company at Algoma. Following his marriage he returned to the home farm, which he aided his father in operating for three years, and subsequently for two and one half years he was rural mail carrier. In 1905, however, he established his present business, which in 1916 was incorporated under the name of the Perry Company. They carry a large and well selected stock of shelf and heavy hardware and their business ability is evidenced from the fact that the company is the leading hardware concern in the county.

Mr. Perry was married in 1898 to Miss Imogene Heald, who is a daughter of Eugene and Agnes (Hitt) Heald, natives respectively of New York and Wisconsin. The father became the owner of a good farm in Clay Banks township and there Mrs. Perry was born. By her marriage she has become the mother of four children: Thomas Milton, Marion, Evelyn and Clinton Samuel.

Mr. Perry has not had time to take a very active part in public affairs but he has discharged to the full all his duties as a citizen. In politics he is a republican, and for eight years he served as town clerk. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and fraternally is connected with the Modern Woodmen and the Mystic Workers. He is not only one of the most reliable and most successful merchants of Forestville but is also connected with its financial interests as a director and secretary of the State Bank. His salient characteristics are such as invariably win respect and regard, and he is deservedly held in high esteem.

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### JOHN ZELHOFFER.

John Zelhofer, who is engaged in farming on section 19, Jacksonport township, was born April 12, 1888, in the township which is still his home, his parents being John and Teresa (Mistbauer) Zelhofer, who were natives of Germany, where they were reared and married. Six children were born to them ere they crossed the Atlantic, namely: Josephine, who became the wife of Alexander Houser, of Milwaukee; Mary, the wife of Joseph Searth, of Sturgeon Bay; Frank, deceased; Johanna, the wife of August Nichter, of Jacksonport town-

ship; John, who died in infancy; and Teresa, the wife of Anton Searth, of Jacksonport township. The father followed the occupation of farming in Germany until 1881, when he brought his family to the United States, establishing his home on Washington island in Door county, where he was employed in saw-mills for two and one half years. He then removed to Jacksonport township and purchased eighty acres of land on section 19. It was covered with the native growth of timber and brush, which he had to clear away before the land could be plowed. His first home was a log cabin and the family lived in true pioneer style, but with the passing of the years success attended their earnest efforts to develop the farm, which was transformed into a very productive and valuable property. Mr. Zelhofer has retired from active business life and both he and his wife are now living with their son John, the subject of this review, who was the only child born to them after they came to the new world.

The district schools afforded John Zelhofer his educational opportunities, but he attended only to the age of eleven years, for it was necessary that he then devote his entire attention to the farm work for his father had become an invalid. He now owns the home place, which he has largely assisted in developing and improving. His labors have resulted in making this a fine farm according to the standards of agriculture in the twentieth century. There are substantial buildings, well kept fences, highly cultivated fields and good grades of stock, and the neat and thrifty appearance of the place indicates the careful supervision of the owner. Like the other members of the family he holds to the Catholic faith. He has never sought to figure prominently in public life, content to leave office holding to others, for he has preferred to concentrate his efforts and attention upon his business interests.

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#### HENRY H. HINRICHS.

Henry H. Hinrichs, postmaster of Baileys Harbor, where he is also engaged in farming, was born in East Friesland, Germany, April 10, 1863, a son of Henry and Toma (Bunting) Hinrichs, who were also natives of that country. The father was a mechanic and became proprietor of a brush factory. He and his wife never came to the United States, spending their entire lives in Germany, where the father died in 1876, while the mother survived until 1894.

Henry H. Hinrichs spent his boyhood in his native country, pursued his education there and afterward learned the shoemaking trade. He served for three years in the German army, according to the laws of the country, and later became connected with the postoffice department, thus serving the government for four and one-half years. At length he determined to try his fortune in the new world and crossed the Atlantic to America, arriving on the 22d of February, 1888. He first made his way to Burlington, Iowa, where he later engaged in business as a shoe merchant for twelve years. On the expiration of that period he removed to Algoma, Wisconsin, and was employed in a veneering factory. He afterward took up his abode in Forestville, Wisconsin, where he again conducted a shoe business, carrying on his store at that place for two years. Subsequently he removed to Baileys Harbor and purchased a farm of

eighty acres, which he at once began to improve and develop. In April, 1915, he was appointed postmaster of Baileys Harbor and has since occupied that position, dividing his time between the duties of the office and his agricultural interests. His business affairs are capably and wisely managed and the same spirit of enterprise and fidelity is shown in connection with his discharge of the duties of the office which he fills.

On the 22d of June, 1887, Mr. Hinrichs was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Sanders, a daughter of John and Catherine (Jergius) Sanders. She, too, is a native of Germany and their marriage was celebrated in that country. They have become the parents of six children: Henry, who passed away in 1888; Fred; John; Henrietta; Catherine; and Dora.

In his political views Mr. Hinrichs is a republican. He has filled the office of town clerk for seven years and has been notary public. While interested in the success of his party and the welfare of his community, his attention has chiefly been given to his business interests and whatever success he has achieved is attributable entirely to his own diligence and determination.

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#### NOEL J. DELFOSSE, SR.

In the death of Noel J. Delfosse, Door county lost one of its most substantial, respected and honored citizens, a man who had contributed in large measure to the development and upbuilding of the district in which he lived. He was born in Belgium, in the year 1844, and passed away in February, 1914, so that his life record compassed more than sixty-nine years. He spent his early boyhood in his native country and then accompanied his parents to the United States, the voyage being made on one of the old time sailing vessels in 1853. They reached Philadelphia and thence proceeded westward to Chicago, while later they arrived at Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin. The family home was established in Gardner township, where the grandfather purchased wild land and began the development of the farm, the family sharing in all the hardships and privations of pioneer life. He prospered in his undertakings so that the boundaries of his farm, which originally included eighty acres, were extended to include two hundred acres. Both he and his wife died on the old homestead.

Throughout much of his life Noel J. Delfosse was a resident of Union township. Its public school system afforded him his educational opportunities and he was trained to all the practical work of the farm from the time of early spring planting until crops were gathered in the late autumn. The farm was inherited by the four sons, Louis, August, Eugene and Noel, and with that nucleus Noel J. Delfosse kept adding to his landed possession until he was the owner of one hundred and sixty acres, constituting a valuable farm property. He erected thereon a substantial residence, also built good barns and outbuildings and as the years passed continued the work of progress and improvement in a substantial way, becoming one of the representative agriculturists of the community.

In 1870 Mr. Delfosse was united in marriage to Miss Louise Dalemont who passed away a year later. Seven years later Mr. Delfosse was again married, his second union being with Miss Julia Huddy, and they became the parents of six



NOEL J. DELFOSSE, Sr.





children, two sons and four daughters: Harriet, the wife of William Schultz; August, who is upon the home farm; Leona, the wife of Justin Chaudoir, of Brussels; Mary, the wife of Julian Conard; Rosa, the wife of Jule Conard; and Noel J., who is mentioned elsewhere in this work.

Mr. Delfosse early became a man of prominence and influence in his community and something of the high regard and goodwill which were ever entertained for him is indicated in the fact that for thirty-three consecutive years he was chosen chairman of the town board of Union and represented his constituents faithfully at the annual meeting held in Sturgeon Bay. He was a conscientious officer, a man of high character and principles and he ranked with the county's most substantial and progressive farmers, while as a man and a friend he was the soul of honor. His many sterling traits gained him the warmest regard of those among whom he long lived and his name deserves a prominent place upon the pages of Door county's pioneer history.

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#### PETER ZETTEL.

A good farm on section 26, Nasewaupee township, is owned and cultivated by Peter Zettel. He was born in Bohemia on the 10th day of October, 1864, and is a son of Peter Zettel, Sr., who came to the United States in 1869. Making his way to Wisconsin, he settled first at Algoma and later removed to Maplewood in Door county, where for eight years he engaged in farming. He next took up his abode in Nasewaupee township, on section 26, homesteading eighty acres which is now the property of his son and namesake. He was long identified with its development and cultivation, continuing to reside thereon until called to his final rest, passing away July 27, 1906, at which time his remains were interred in the cemetery at Maplewood. He was a democrat in his political faith and a Catholic in his religious belief.

Peter Zettel of this review was reared to farm life, early meeting the varied experiences of the boy who divides his time between the work of the schoolroom and of the fields. He began farming on his own account on the old homestead twenty-eight years ago and has since given his attention to its further development and improvement. That he is a capable and progressive business man is indicated in the fact that his cooperation has been sought along various other lines and he is now a stockholder in the cheese factory, in the Sawyer & Western Telephone Company, in the Farmers Elevator Company and for eleven years was treasurer of the Nasewaupee Dairy Company.

On the 26th of March, 1886, Mr. Zettel was united in marriage to Miss Emma Burlo, of Egg Harbor, Wisconsin, and they have become parents of ten children: Tressie, now the wife of Bass D. Vincent, of Jennings, Michigan; Mary, the wife of Dan Holway, of Green Bay, Wisconsin; Joseph, who is living in Canada; Delvina, who is in Chicago; Delia, the wife of Emanuel Carty, of Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin; Lillian May, at home; Frank, who is a member of the National Guard of Wisconsin; Fred, a cheese maker of Nasewaupee township; and Henry and Lawrence, both at home.

In his religious faith Mr. Zettel is a Catholic, belonging to Corpus Christi

church at Sawyer, and he has membership with the Catholic Knights at Sawyer. In politics he is a democrat and for eight years he was supervisor of his township and was road commissioner for six years. He has always been loyal to the best interests of the community and has given his aid and support to many measures for the general good.

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#### CONRAD HUMKE.

Conrad Humke resides in Nasewaupee township upon the farm which he cleared and improved, although it is now the property of his son. He was born September 17, 1852, in Wisconsin, of the marriage of Conrad and Carlina Humke. He received a good education and excellent home training which inculcated the habits of industry and thrift. For many years he has been a resident of Nasewaupee township, Door county, having located upon the farm where he still resides in 1880. The land was heavily timbered and before he could plant any crops it was necessary to spend a great deal of time in clearing the place. At length his fields were all brought to a high state of cultivation, good buildings were erected and other improvements made. For three decades or more he concentrated his energies upon farming and as improved methods came into use he adopted them, thus increasing his efficiency. He added to his capital from year to year and at length felt that he had accumulated a competence, and sold the farm to his son, Walter, although he still resides thereon.

In 1879 Mr. Humke was married to Miss Mary Arpke, and they have had six children: Otto, who is a blacksmith at Sawyer; Ida, who also lives in Sawyer; Edwin, a veterinary located in that town; Walter, who was married in 1916 to Miss Carrie Termensen of Sawyer, and now owns the home place; Herbert, who is a lawyer at Valparaiso, Indiana; and Esther, who is a resident of Sawyer.

Mr. Humke is a republican and is loyal to the candidates of that party at the polls. His keen interest in the educational advancement of the district is indicated by the fact that for eighteen years he has been treasurer of the school board. He holds membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and the integrity of his daily life is proof of the sincerity of his religious faith. His salient characteristics are such as to win him a high place in the estimation of his fellows and he has many warm personal friends.

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#### JOSEPH DEUTSCH.

Joseph Deutsch is successfully engaged in stock raising on his fine farm, known as the Sunny Slope Farm, on section 12, Nasewaupee township, and has gained considerable note in that connection, especially as a breeder of fine Lincoln sheep. He was born July 27, 1875, in Door county, a son of Ignatz and Rosa Deutsch, who were of Austrian birth. The father served for three years in the Austrian army and fought in the Franco-Prussian war, notably in the

campaign which repelled the invasion from Italy. On emigrating to the United States the parents located in Green Bay, Wisconsin, and later came to Door county. In their family were twelve children, of whom six died in childhood, those surviving being: Anna, who is the wife of Louis Zusy, of Milwaukee; Joseph; Rosa, who lives in Milwaukee; William and Kate, both of whom reside in Nasewaupsee township; and Frank.

Joseph Deutsch is indebted for his education to the common schools of Door county and passed his boyhood and youth under the parental roof. He has made stock raising his life work and has gained a large measure of prosperity. He raises Lincoln sheep, which he was the first to introduce into the county, and never fails to carry off all the prizes on sheep at the county fairs. He also raises registered Guernsey cattle, Single Comb Black Minorca chickens and Scotch collie dogs. He has given his place the name of the Sunny Slope Farm and takes justifiable pride in it, for it is one of the best developed and most attractive farm properties of the county. The buildings for the care of his stock and crops are of the most modern design and of substantial construction and he keeps abreast of the latest discoveries relating to scientific stock raising.

Mr. Deutsch is independent in politics, believing that the qualifications of a candidate are of far greater importance than his political affiliation. In religious faith he is a Roman Catholic. Through the exercise of enterprise, initiative and sound judgment he has gained a place among the leading citizens of his township and his personal qualities are such that he has also won the warm friendship of many.

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#### HON. FRANK N. GRAASS.

As the architect of his own fortunes Hon. Frank N. Graass has builded wisely and well, but his life work has had more far-reaching effect than just in the promotion of his own interests. He has contributed to the upbuilding of his county through the organization and development of its fruit raising and selling interests and, moreover, he has become the largest exporter of tree seeds in the United States. At the same time he has represented his county in the state legislature and has taken active and helpful part in framing Wisconsin's laws. Sturgeon Bay and has every reason to be proud to number him among her native sons. He was born August 19, 1885, his parents being John P. and Mina (Wagener) Graass, who were natives of Luxemburg, Germany, and came to the United States in early life, settling in Door county, Wisconsin, where the father engaged in the livery business and also conducted a saloon, devoting the remainder of his days to that undertaking. He died in December, 1887, while his wife, surviving for many years, passed away in June, 1913.

Frank N. Graass was reared and educated in Sturgeon Bay, passing through consecutive grades in the public schools to his graduation from the high school with the class of 1905. He then turned his attention to forestry work, principally in the buying of pine cones, from which he extracted the seeds. He has continued in this business to the present day and now has developed one of the most important industries of the kind in the United States. He has three

branches, one at Crivitz, Wisconsin, a second at Roscommon, Michigan, and a third at Sturgeon Bay. He also has three hundred agencies throughout the central and western states, buying up cones, after which he sells the seeds, mostly in foreign countries, having today the largest exporting tree seed business in the United States. He has developed this undertaking to extensive proportions and Sturgeon Bay may well be proud of the fact that one of its citizens holds the position of leadership in this line. He also owns an orchard of eighteen hundred cherry and apple trees, with five hundred currant and gooseberry bushes and several hundred plum trees. In 1916 he was elected to the board of directors of the Door County Fruit Exchange and in the same year was elected a director of the Door County Fruit Union, which handles and markets the entire fruit output of Door county. In addition to his other property he owns Door county farm land and a nice residence at No. 404 Lawrence avenue in Sturgeon Bay. His realty interests also include property in the suburbs of Los Angeles.

In politics, too, Mr. Graass has figured most prominently as a republican and one whose efforts have been of marked benefit to his party. In the fall of 1916 he was elected state representative from his district and served in the legislature through the following year. He was appointed a member of the committee which was sent to St. Paul, Minnesota, to draw up joint laws which would apply with equal helpfulness and benefit to the two states. He was also appointed on several other important committees, including insurance, banking and municipalities. He gave careful consideration to all the vital questions which came up for settlement and his aid and influence furthered many movements which have been of direct benefit to the commonwealth. He is actuated in all that he does by a public-spirited devotion to the general good and his efforts have been far-reaching and beneficial. Those who know him, and he has a wide acquaintance, entertain for him the highest regard, knowing him to be a man who is ever loyal to his convictions of right and who is ever faithful to the duties that devolve upon him.

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#### WILLIAM JESS.

That William Jess, of Detroit Harbor, is a capable business man is indicated by the fact that he has been secretary and manager of the telephone company since its organization, has been secretary of the Mutual Home Fire Insurance Company for the past fourteen years, and has been secretary, treasurer and manager of the creamery company since its organization. He was born September 23, 1860, in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, where he was reared and received part of his education. In 1884 he came to the United States and at once made his way to Washington Island, Door county. After following the blacksmith's trade in the employ of his uncle for some time he worked in sawmills for a period. Later he went to Gladstone, Michigan, and there was employed as a millwright for five years. On returning to Washington Island he worked at the blacksmith's trade. In 1894 he purchased the place on section 36, near Detroit Harbor, where he still resides, and since 1896 he has engaged in the implement business. He has built up a large patronage in that connection and he is also active in the management of the telephone company, which he aided in organizing.

Mr. Jess was married January 2, 1895, to Miss Marion Jessen, who was born in New Jersey, but was brought as a child to Washington Island by her parents, Captain and Mrs. John C. Jessen, her father being a ship captain. Her birth occurred November 3, 1873, and by her marriage she has become the mother of seven children: Alton, who was born November 19, 1895; Elsabe, whose birth occurred December 3, 1897, and who passed away January 31, 1909; Esther, born July 6, 1900; William, Jr., born November 5, 1902; Harvey, December 13, 1904; Orville, February 10, 1910; and Elva, October 1, 1913.

Mr. Jess supports the republican party at the polls and for sixteen years was chairman of the board. On the 28th of September, 1907, he was appointed postmaster of Detroit Harbor and has acceptably filled that position ever since. For five years he has been jury commissioner, for twelve years has served as clerk of the school district No. 1, and for five years has been a member of the Door and Kewaunee Counties Training School board. He has also served as a member of the exemption board in connection with the formation of the new National Army. In religious faith he is a Lutheran, while fraternally he is identified with the Masons.

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#### FRANK ZELHOFFER.

Hardships, difficulties and obstacles have at times beset the career of Frank Zelhofer, whose persistency, however, has enabled him to work his way steadily upward, and he is now the owner of a good farm property on section 19, Jacksonport township. An Austrian by birth his natal day was the 25th of November, 1860. His parents, Frank and Teresa (Winman) Zelhofer, were farming people. The father was married twice and by his first marriage had three children who reached adult age: Charles, who resided for many years in Pennsylvania but is now deceased; Leopold, deceased, who was a resident of Jacksonport township, Door county; and Mrs. Josephine Kreutzer, of Austria. Seven children were born to the marriage of Frank and Teresa (Winman) Zelhofer, namely: Frank, of this review; Mary, the wife of Charles Lautenbach, of Jacksonport township; Flora, the wife of Charles Zelhofer, of Sevastopol township; Elizabeth, the wife of Frank Niemeier, of Egg Harbor township; Teresa, the wife of Jacob Niemeier, of Egg Harbor township; Joseph, who died at the age of seven years; and Hannah, the wife of Joseph Geisler, of Bradford, Pennsylvania.

Frank Zelhofer was a lad of twelve years when his parents came to the United States, establishing their home at Jamestown, Pennsylvania, where the father worked in the coal mines for ten years. On the expiration of that period the family came to Door county and the father invested his savings in forty acres of land on section 20 and forty acres on section 19, Jacksonport township. Upon this place he built a log cabin and then began the arduous task of clearing away the timber and preparing the land for the plow. After two years, however, he returned to Pennsylvania, where he again resided for four years. On the expiration of that period he once more came to his Jacksonport farm upon which he spent his remaining days, his death occurring August 9, 1913.

at which time he was laid to rest in the Catholic cemetery of Jacksonport. His widow survives and makes her home with her son Frank.

While still in his native land Frank Zelhofer had the opportunity of attending the public schools but he had no instruction in the schools of this country, as he began to earn his living when a lad of twelve years. He worked for his father until he reached the age of twenty-six and his boyhood and youth were a period of unremitting toil, wherein he gained the experience that enabled him to carefully and successfully manage his agricultural interests. When twenty-six years of age he came into possession of the home farm and in addition he has purchased other property, including forty acres on section 19, forty acres on section 30 and two other forty acre tracts on section 19, making two hundred and forty acres in all. His farm is a valuable one and indicates the careful supervision of its practical and progressive owner.

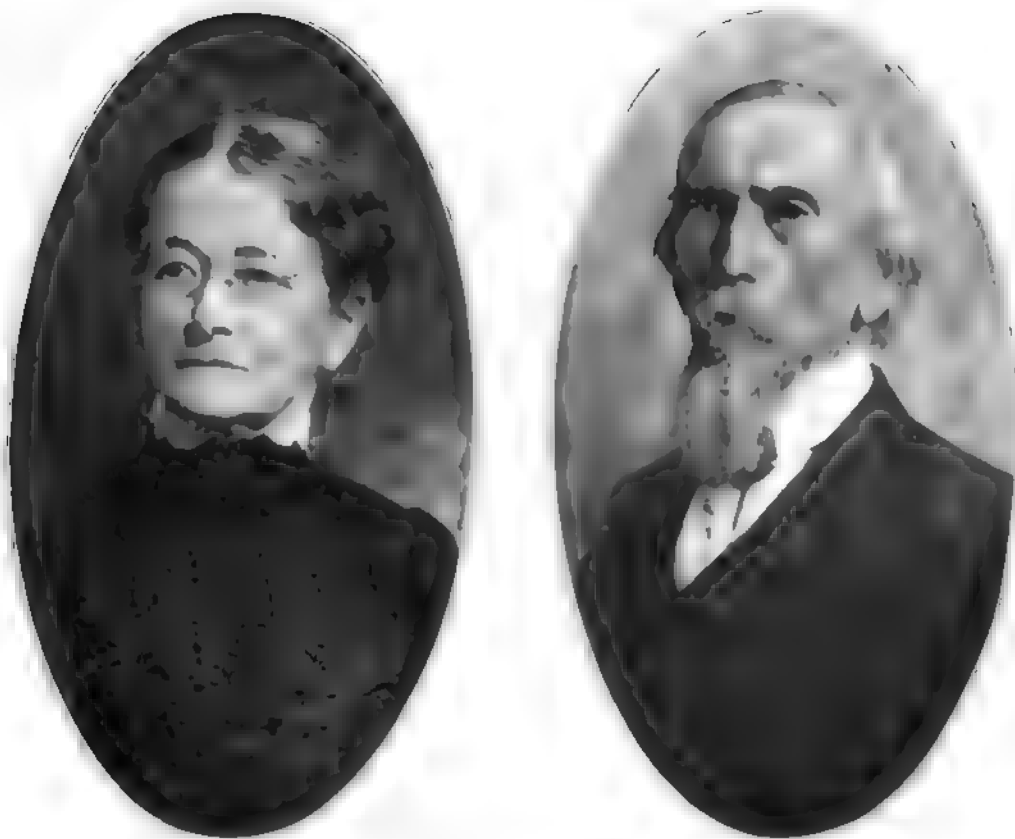
When twenty-six years of age Mr. Zelhofer was united in marriage to Miss Frances Mistbauer, a daughter of Carl and Frances (Kernstog) Mistbauer, who were natives of Austria and early settlers of Jacksonport. The father is now deceased, while the mother yet occupies the old homestead. Mr. and Mrs. Zelhofer were parents of eight children, Bertha, Frank, Jr., Elizabeth, Charles, Edward, Josephine, Anna and Frances, all of whom are at home.

The religious faith of the family is that of the Catholic church, to which they ever loyally adhere. From the age of twelve Frank Zelhofer has been a resident of the United States. He has taken advantage of the opportunities offered in the land where effort is unhampered by caste or class, and as the years have gone on he has so directed his affairs that he has won a substantial measure of success and has made a place among the representative farmers of his adopted county.

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#### WALLACE I. LAWRENCE.

Wallace I. Lawrence is a representative of one of the pioneer families of Door county and is prominently, extensively and successfully engaged in fruit raising on this peninsula, which seems particularly favorable to horticultural pursuits. He was born in Sturgeon Bay, March 31, 1876, and is a son of William B. and Augusta (Brooks) Lawrence, who were natives of Maine. It was at an early period in the development of this section that the father arrived in Door county and became a factor in the early development and upbuilding of this part of the state. He became proprietor of a hotel and also conducted a meat market in an early day, but in 1880 removed to a farm situated on Sturgeon Bay and for many years actively engaged in general agricultural pursuits, his labors being attended with substantial and gratifying results. He continued farming until he turned the business over to his son Wallace when advanced age came upon him. He passed away in 1912 after reaching the eighty-ninth milestone on life's journey and is still survived by his widow, who is now eighty-two years of age. They had a family of eight children: Myron, who is proprietor of The Cove at Sturgeon Bay; Edith, at home; George, who is living at Beechwood, Michigan; Frank,



MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM B. LAWRENCE





a resident of Edmonton, Canada; Fred, deceased; Jesse, living at Council Bluffs; Wallace I.; and Carl, at home.

When a little lad of about six years Wallace I. Lawrence entered the public schools of Sturgeon Bay and he there mastered the lessons which qualified him for life's practical and responsible duties. In his youthful days he assisted his father in the work of the farm and in 1895 took charge of the place, being then a youth of nineteen years. In the intervening period he has concentrated his attention upon the development and production of fruit. He first began raising small fruits, planting six acres to strawberries and two acres to raspberries. In 1897 he set out four acres to apples, three acres to cherries and one acre to plums. Today he has twenty-seven acres in fruit—eight acres in apples, one acre in plums and eighteen acres in cherries, and in addition he cultivates nine acres. His place is situated on Sturgeon Bay and is within the city limits. The soil is naturally adapted to fruit growing and he has made a study of what can best be raised in this district. He has a particularly fine cherry orchard and has no trouble in disposing of his crops.

In 1905 Mr. Lawrence was married to Miss Gertrude Mahlberg, of Sturgeon Bay, a daughter of Antone and Augusta Mahlberg. In politics he has always been a republican and he has served as a member of the police and fire commission. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias and to the Twenty Club, an exclusive organization which draws its membership from the leading business men and citizens of Sturgeon Bay. Those who know him, and he has a wide acquaintance, speak of him in terms of high regard, recognizing his business ability and spirit of enterprise as well as his progressiveness and fidelity in matters of citizenship. He stands loyally for all those things which are a matter of civic virtue and civic pride, and his influence is on the side of progress and improvement in every connection.

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#### DANIEL OHERN.

Daniel Ohern has been very successful as a farmer and now owns two hundred and forty acres of well improved land in Egg Harbor township. His birth occurred in Ireland, January 6, 1842, and he is a son of William and Mary (Conlon) Ohern, also natives of the Emerald isle. In 1864 the parents came with their family to America, but the father was taken ill with typhoid fever on the vessel and only lived five days after he reached the home of his brother at Fall River, Massachusetts. The brother and his wife also died of that disease at the same time. The mother of our subject, however, survived for many years, her demise occurring in 1900.

Daniel Ohern was reared at home and in the acquirement of his education attended the public schools of Ireland. He accompanied his parents to the United States and for a time worked on a boat plying between New York and Newport, Rhode Island. In 1865 he came to Wisconsin, reaching Sturgeon Bay on the 26th of June. Soon afterward he went to work for A. W. Lawrence and for four years remained in his employ. He then invested his savings in one hundred and sixty acres of land in Nasewaupsee township, but after farming that

place for three years he sold it and removed to an eighty acre tract in Egg Harbor township, which was his father-in-law's home. His energy and wise direction of affairs were rewarded by good returns from his land and from time to time he increased his holdings and now owns two hundred and forty acres on sections 23, 27, 34 and 35, Egg Harbor township. He has cleared one hundred and forty acres and has not only brought the land to a high state of cultivation but has also erected excellent buildings and the farm compares very favorably in its improvements with others in the township. He is engaged in dairying quite extensively, milking twenty-two cows, and all his stock is of good grade.

On the 25th of February, 1869, Mr. Ohern was married to Miss Marion Maloney, a daughter of Martin and Mary (Lenahan) Maloney, natives of Ireland. It was in 1850 that the Maloney family came to America and for a time they resided in New York, where Mrs. Ohern was born in 1852. In 1857 removal was made to Door county, Wisconsin. Mr. Maloney purchased an eighty acre tract of land from the government. He engaged in the operation of that farm until his demise, which occurred on the 24th of December, 1890. That tract is now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Ohern and the latter has resided thereon for about six decades. Mrs. Maloney was called to her final rest on the 17th of March, 1882. Eleven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Ohern, namely: Mamie, the wife of Orrin Allen, a resident of Kewaunee, Wisconsin; Hannah, who is now Mrs. James Hall and resides at Sawyer, Door county; William, a farmer of Egg Harbor township; Sarah, the wife of John Kaugh, who is farming in Forestville township; Agnes, who died in 1879; Grace, the wife of Mayo Baubau, of Sturgeon Bay; Martin and Cicily at home; Daniel, who enlisted in Company F, Fifth Regiment, Wisconsin National Guards, for service in the World war; Dennis, who married Anita Freckman and is the agent for the Remington Typewriter Company at Green Bay; and Loretta, who is now Sister Edwin in the Holy Family Convent at Manitowoc, Wisconsin.

Mr. Ohern believes in the principles of the republican party and supports its candidates at the polls. He has been quite active in local affairs, having served for three years on the town board, and he has held several minor offices. He is the only living member who attended mass in the first Catholic church built in Sturgeon Bay in 1866 and for twenty-nine years has been a member of the Catholic Knights of Wisconsin. His life has conformed to the teachings of the church and he has sought to advance its interests in every possible way.

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#### ALBERT BANKNER.

Albert Bankner, who is devoting his time and energy to the operation of his good farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 28, Sevastopol township, was born April 26, 1846, in Kirt, Hesse, Germany. He attended school in his native country until he was twenty years of age and then emigrated to America, landing at New York city on the 24th of October, 1866. He went to Green Bay by way of Pittsburgh and Chicago and traveled from Green Bay by boat to Sturgeon Bay, where he secured work with the Sturgeon Bay Lumber Company. After remaining with that concern for about five years he turned his attention

to farming and in 1872 purchased the farm on which he still lives. At that time, however, it was covered with timber and it required a great deal of hard work to clear the land and bring it under cultivation. He has erected good barns upon the place, and in the care of his stock and the cultivation of his fields he follows improved methods. As the years have passed his resources have increased and he is now one of the substantial men of Sevastopol township.

Mr. Bankner was married September 9, 1869, in Door county, to Miss Bobbie Uhl, who was born in Germany, August 10, 1852, but was brought to this country by her parents when a child. To this union have been born six children, as follows: Theresa, whose birth occurred March 24, 1871, and who is now Mrs. E. Folsom, of Milwaukee; Minnie, born January 9, 1873; Oscar, who was born April 7, 1876, and is assisting his father in the operation of the home farm; Frank, born February 3, 1879; Tillie, born March 16, 1881; and Edward Albert, born August 17, 1887.

The republican party has a staunch supporter in Mr. Bankner, and for one term he held the office of road supervisor, but he has consistently given the greater part of his time and attention to his farming interests. His many excellent qualities have won for him a high place in the esteem of his fellow citizens, and he has many loyal friends.

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#### HERMAN JOHN TESKE.

Herman John Teske, conducting a general store and a cheese factory at Carnot, Forestville township, and serving also as president of the State Bank of Forestville, has proved efficient in the management of his private affairs and in directing the policies of the bank. He was born in Pierce township, Kewaunee county, Wisconsin, May 20, 1870. His father, Henry Teske, was born in Pomerania, Germany, but in 1853 accompanied his parents to America, the journey being made on an old-time sailing vessel. The family home was established in Kewaunee county, Wisconsin, where both of his parents died. He was a farmer and met with gratifying success in his chosen occupation. The mother, who bore the maiden name of Augusta Kuke, was also born in Pomerania and was brought by her parents to Ahnapee township, Kewaunee county, Wisconsin, in 1857. Her father purchased land and followed agricultural pursuits until called by death. Mr. and Mrs. Teske were married in Ahnapee township and subsequently removed to Pierce township, Kewaunee county, where the former successfully engaged in farming. Following his death, which occurred in 1875, Mrs. Teske became the wife of Ed Machut, who was an agriculturist. In 1913 he sold his place to his son and removed to Algoma, where he now resides, his wife having passed away in 1914. Mr. Teske gave evidence of his allegiance to his adopted country when in 1862 he enlisted in the Twenty-Eighth Wisconsin Cavalry, with which he served at the front until the close of the war. He rode one horse during the entire period and at the end of that time returned it to its owner, who had given him the use of it. During the greater part of his service he was under the command of General Sherman. To Mr. and

Mrs. Teske were born five children: Albert, Bertha, Herman John, John and Fred.

Herman John Teske passed his boyhood at Piercetown, Kewaunee county, where he remained until he was twenty-one years old. He later learned the cheesemaker's trade at Alaska, Pierce township, and during the winter months worked in the north woods, cutting cedar posts which were made into blocks used in paving the streets of Chicago. In the fall of 1895 he purchased a general store at Carnot, which he has since conducted, and he also operates a cheese factory there, shipping cheese to Sheboygan. He is energetic and allows no opportunities for the increase of his business to slip by him and has built up a good trade both as a merchant and as a cheese manufacturer. He is president of the State Bank of Forestville and gives considerable time to the discharge of his duties in that connection. He organized the bank in 1907 in connection with W. H. Bastar and the present directors are C. R. Guth of Brussels and George Schnitz, Samuel Perry and E. M. E. Muller, all of Forestville. The bank is capitalized for twenty-five thousand dollars and has the entire confidence of the community. Mr. Teske has other interests, being the vice president and manager of the Forestville Telephone Company.

On September 3, 1896, Mr. Teske was united in marriage to Miss Lena Hoppe, a daughter of Fred and Caroline (Gaedke) Hoppe, who were among the first settlers in Wisconsin. Mrs. Teske was born in Casco, this state, and by her marriage has become the mother of three children: Viola, Loretta and Chester.

Mr. Teske is a staunch advocate of the principles of the republican party and has served acceptably as school director and justice of the peace. He is a member of the Lutheran church, in which faith he was reared, and his integrity has always been above question. He is justly regarded as one of the leading citizens of his township, and his personal qualities are such that he has many warm friends.

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#### JOHN DETTMAN.

John Dettman, an alert and progressive agriculturist residing in Forestville township, was born upon the farm which is still his home September 19, 1879. His parents, Joachim and Hannah (Stickman) Dettman, were born respectively in Mecklenburg and Pomerania, Germany, and the father was there educated. At the age of twenty years, however, he accompanied his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Leonard Dettman, on their removal to Manitowoc, Wisconsin. The family home was established upon a tract of ninety acres which the grandfather cleared and brought under cultivation and where both he and his wife passed away. Their son, Joachim Dettman, came to Forestville township some time before the great forest fire here and bought eighty acres of land, after which he returned to Manitowoc county, where he resided until after the fire. He then took up his residence upon his farm, which fortunately was not in the path of the fire, and cleared the timber and planted the usual crops. He erected a log house, which in later years gave place to a substantial frame residence. For a number of years



MR. AND MRS. JOHN DETTMAN



he spent the winters in the woods, while he devoted the summer seasons to work upon his farm. From time to time he added to his holdings, and at his death, which occurred in 1908, he was the owner of two hundred and forty acres of fertile land. His wife passed away in 1897.

John Dettman received his education in the district schools and during his boyhood and youth gained a practical knowledge of agriculture through assisting with the farm work. He later operated the home place in partnership with his father and following the latter's demise bought the interests of the other heirs in the place, of which he is now sole owner. He has made a number of improvements upon the farm and keeps everything in good condition. He raises both grain and stock and, as he is efficient in his work and makes a close study of market conditions, he receives a good income from his land.

In 1903 Mr. Dettman was united in marriage to Miss Lena Paasch, a daughter of Henry and Emma (Hartman) Paasch, who were natives respectively of Holstein, Germany, and of Sheboygan county, Wisconsin. Her father was brought to the United States by his parents when an infant and in early manhood followed the fishing business at Sheboygan for seven years. He then purchased eighty acres of land in Forestville township, Door county, and passed the remainder of his life there. His daughter, Mrs. Dettman, was born upon that place.

Mr. Dettman is independent in politics and is now serving as school clerk although he is not otherwise active in public affairs. His success has been founded upon the solid foundation of industry, perseverance and good management, and he justly ranks among the representative farmers of the county.

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### J. CHRIST WAGNER.

J. Christ Wagner is living on section 18, Jacksonport township, now owning and operating what is known as the old Wagner homestead, the place having been in the possession of the family for a third of a century. He was born in Diedorf, Germany, July 13, 1877, a son of George and Elizabeth (Limbert) Wagner. The father engaged in farming to a limited extent and also followed the weaver's trade. In 1881 he came to the United States and made his way direct to Jacksonport township, Door county, Wisconsin, where he worked for others in the lumber woods for three years. He was ambitious to own a farm, however, and carefully saved his earnings so that at the end of that period he was able to purchase the west half of the southeast quarter of section 18 of the same township—a tract of wild timber land on which he built a log house. He then began clearing the place and as soon as possible put in his crops. As the years passed success in substantial measure crowned his efforts and he continuously cultivated his farm until 1913, when he decided to put aside further business cares and sold the property to his son Christ, with whom he and his wife are now living, the father enjoying a well earned rest from business. To him and his wife were born eight children who reached adult age: Charles, who was a farmer in Jacksonport township but is now deceased; Fred, who follows farming in Jacksonport township; Caroline, the wife of Emil Limbert, of Mich-

igan; J. Christ; Edward, living in Jacksonport township; Amelia, the wife of Louis Lautenbach, of Egg Harbor township; Gustav, whose home is in Sturgeon Bay; and Emma, the wife of Rhinold Lautenbach, of Jacksonport township.

J. Christ Wagner was a pupil in the pioneer schools of this county through the winter months until about sixteen years of age. The remainder of the year was devoted to work upon the home farm, and at length he purchased the place, to which he has since added a tract of forty acres, being now the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of good land. The soil is naturally rich and productive and responds readily to the care which he has bestowed upon it.

On the 21st of February, 1905, Mr. Wagner was married to Miss Mary Jonas, a daughter of Mathias and Christina Jonas, who are mentioned elsewhere in this work. Four children have been born to them who are yet living: Anna, Clarence, Lucy and Roland, all yet at home, and they also lost one child, Hulda, who passed away at the age of seven months and was buried in the Congregational cemetery. The parents are members of the Congregational Lutheran church and are loyal to its teachings, doing all in their power to promote its growth and extend its influence. Mr. Wagner has followed in his father's political footsteps and has always given his support to the republican party. He belongs to the Mystic Workers. He is serving for the second term as school director and he is interested in all that pertains to the welfare of the community and its advancement along material, political and intellectual and moral lines.

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#### ROBERT STEPHENSON.

Robert Stephenson, a wideawake and prosperous farmer residing on section 27, Sevastopol township, was born in that township, May 31, 1882, a son of L. R. and Anna (Gibson) Stephenson, natives of New York and of Brown county, Wisconsin, respectively. The father served in the Civil war in an Illinois infantry regiment and after his discharge from military service removed to Brown county, Wisconsin, where he married Miss Anna Gibson. After farming there for several years he returned to Door county, where he had lived previous to entering the army. To this marriage were born two children: Cora, who is now Mrs. Charles Holmes, of Sturgeon Bay; and Robert. When the latter was about two and a half years old the mother died and was buried in a cemetery at Bay Settlement, Brown county. A complete sketch of the father's life is given elsewhere in this work.

Robert Stephenson attended the local public schools until he was sixteen years old and during the following four years worked for his father. He then hired out to others for two years, after which he rented the Joseph Zettel homestead for thirteen years. At the expiration of that time, or in the spring of 1917, he returned to his father's home farm, which he is now operating. He understands thoroughly the methods of cultivation best adapted to Door county soil and has been very successful as an agriculturist. He not only owns the home farm, which comprises the east half of the northwest quarter of section 27, Sevastopol township, but also holds title to the northwest quarter of section



35, that township, and takes justifiable pride in the fact that he has made all that he has himself.

Mr. Stephenson was married in 1902 to Miss Lillian Zettel, a daughter of Joseph and Christina Zettel. Mrs. Stephenson died October 16, 1910, and is buried in the Bayside cemetery. She was the mother of four children, namely: Milton; Goldie; Sylvia; and George, who died in infancy. Mr. Stephenson was married in 1915 to Miss Pearl Walker, a daughter of Charles B. Walker, a sketch of whose life appears elsewhere in this work. By his second marriage Mr. Stephenson has a son, Ralph.

The republican party has a stalwart supporter in Mr. Stephenson and he is now serving for the third term as a member of the township board and for the sixth year as school clerk. He is connected with the National Fraternal League at Green Bay and is also a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles. His continued success is assured by the same qualities of enterprise, strong common sense and industry which have enabled him to gain the prosperity which is now his.

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#### JOHN A. MAY.

John A. May, a popular resident of Sawyer, not only supervises the operation of his excellent farm, but is also agent for lightning rods and barn fixtures in Door county. He was born on the 20th of June, 1873, in Washington county, Wisconsin, and is a son of John and Mary May. The father was born April 21, 1854, and died April 21, 1908. He came to Door county in October, 1878, and became the owner of eighty acres of land here, which he at once cleared of the timber and brought under cultivation. From time to time he invested his savings in other land, owning eventually three hundred acres, all highly cultivated. He engaged extensively in raising grain and has threshed as high as sixty-four hundred bushels in a year. He was a director of the Farmers Fire Insurance Company from the time of its organization until his death. He held the office of town supervisor for several years and also served for some time as school director and as clerk of the board. He was a member of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic church and also of the Corpus Christi church. He was married in 1872 to Miss Mary Spanheimer, who was born in 1852 and is still living, making her home with her son Peter. To them were born nine children as follows: John A., of this review; Mary, now the wife of John Haen of Sturgeon Bay; Anne, who is married to William Eickelberg of Gardner township; Kate, the wife of Frank Solomon of Sturgeon Bay township; Peter, Joseph and William, all three of whom live in Nasewaupee township; Louise, the wife of Frank Sacotte of Chicago; and Frank, who is operating the homestead.

John A. May graduated from the public school and then took a course in the Green Bay Business College. He makes his home in Sawyer and has built up a good business as agent in Door county for a standard line of lightning rods and barn fixtures, being thoroughly informed on all points relative to the protection of buildings against lightning. Since 1905 he has owned one hundred and fifty-five acres of excellent land in Nasewaupee township and the improvements upon his place compare favorably with those on other farms of the locality.

He derives a gratifying addition to his income from his land and has taken a great deal of interest in the development of the farm.

In 1901 Mr. May was married to Miss Mercy Dunlap of Sturgeon Bay, and they have seven children: Margaret, born July 19, 1902; Henry, October 7, 1904; Laura, October 26, 1906; Esther, March 1, 1908; John, October 3, 1910; Bernard, November 13, 1912; and Leon, in August, 1917.

Mr. May supports the republican party but has never cared to become a candidate for office. He is recognized in Sawyer and throughout the county as an alert and capable business man and his public spirit has been proved on many occasions when he has given freely of his time and energy to promote successfully community projects.

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#### A. A. KOYEN.

A. A. Koyen, of Detroit Harbor, was well known in business circles of Door county, being the founder and proprietor of the Koyen store and also a successful real estate operator. He was likewise connected with navigation interests and in all that he did proved himself a capable and enterprising business man. His birth occurred in Denmark on the 20th of May, 1844, and he was a son of Edward William Koyen, a native of Germany, who emigrated to Denmark in order to take charge of a large estate there. He married a Danish girl, Miss Hannah Kofoed, and they became the parents of nine children, of whom A. A. was the oldest son. His education was acquired in the common schools of his native country.

In 1871, when twenty-seven years old, Mr. Koyen came to the United States and at once made his way to Washington Island, Door county, Wisconsin. He engaged in fishing in the employ of others for some time and later cut and dealt in cordwood. After abandoning that business he purchased seventy-five acres of land on section 25, Washington Island, and erected a number of buildings upon the farm. He subsequently became identified with merchandising interests as the owner of the Koyen store in Detroit Harbor and he also speculated in real estate to quite an extent. He manifested unusual shrewdness and good judgment in placing his investments and he was also successful as a merchant, carrying a large and well selected stock and being accorded liberal patronage. In addition to his other interests he owned the dock at Detroit Harbor and built in Detroit Harbor the Edith M. Koyen, which was named in honor of his daughter. He was one of the organizers of the telephone company, in which he held stock, and in many other ways his enterprise and business insight contributed to the commercial and industrial development of his locality. He passed away on the 20th of March, 1917, and his demise was the occasion of much sincere grief.

On the 23d of May, 1877, Mr. Koyen was united in marriage to Miss Alice Rebecca Garrett, who was born March 17, 1862, on Washington Island, and is a daughter of V. S. and Rebecca M. (Lea) Garrett. Her father was born in Kendall, Orleans county, New York, January 25, 1836, and her mother was a native of Chautauqua county, that state, and of Yankee descent. They were married in Door county, April 16, 1855, by William Shortleff, justice of the peace.

It was in 1848 that the father removed to Illinois and his residence on Washington Island dated from April, 1853. He was a cooper by trade but on removing here became foreman of the stone quarry. His later years, however, were devoted to farming. His wife removed to Rock Island with her sister and brother-in-law several years before Mr. Garrett's arrival in Door county. He was town chairman for over twenty years and was also the first postmaster on the island. He was a man of strong religious faith and was one of the first trustees of Bethel church. To him and his wife were born five children, namely: Harriet Esther, whose birth occurred February 18, 1856, and who is now the wife of Axel Peterson; Junius Volney, who was born March 15, 1859, in Will county, Illinois, and passed away on Washington Island; Alice Rebecca, now Mrs. Koyen; Olive Adeline, who was born December 29, 1864, and is the deceased wife of Jens Jacobson; and William Milton, who was born April 30, 1870, and still resides upon the island.

Mrs. Koyen received her education in the common schools of Door county. She became the mother of nine children: Sophia Rebecca, who was born in February, 1878, and died on the 5th of the following July; Volney Edward, who was born August 31, 1879, and was married October 4, 1900; Floris W., whose birth occurred February 22, 1882; Clarence Andrew, who was born April 26, 1884, and was married October 3, 1914; Jesse Amos born June 20, 1886; Edith Harriet, who was born December 11, 1888, and was married in August, 1908, to Martin Berginsson, of Newport, Wisconsin; Olaf Henry, whose birth occurred November 8, 1891; Lillian Rebecca, born June 5, 1894, and now the wife of Sigord Halvorson, a resident of Long Pine, Nebraska; and Roland Anders, born May 5, 1897.

Mr. Koyen was an adherent of the republican party and served for several years as school clerk and also as school treasurer. He was one of the organizers of the local lodge of the Maccabees and took a great deal of interest in the work of that order. He was one of the first promoters of the creamery and also of the Home Mutual Fire Insurance Company. His religious faith was a guiding force in his life and he held membership in Bethel church. Mrs. Koyen is very active in the work of that church and guides her life by the teachings of Christianity. She has been a lifelong resident of Washington Island and her genuine worth is indicated by the fact that those who have known her intimately since her girlhood are her warm and loyal friends.

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#### CECIL SMITH.

Cecil Smith is actively engaged in farming on section 36, Sevastopol township. He was born in Jacksonport township, August 13, 1896, a son of John and Rebecca (Smyth) Smith, who were natives of Lower Canada, where they were reared and married. Soon afterward they came to Wisconsin, settling in Door county, where the father purchased land in Jacksonport township, becoming owner of a tract of wild timber which he cleared and developed. He continued the work of general improvement until August, 1903, when he sold that place and bought one hundred and sixty acres on section 36 and forty acres on section 31, Sevastopol township. Upon this farm he added many modern im-

provements, erecting a large barn, also building a silo and securing the latest improved machinery to facilitate the work of the fields. In all of his agricultural methods he was most progressive and his labors brought splendid results. He continued to farm and develop his place until the spring of 1915, when he sold the property to his sons, with whom he continued to reside, however, until the spring of 1917, when he removed to Sturgeon Bay, where he now makes his home.

In the family of Mr. and Mrs. John Smith were five children: Milton G., who is now living in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada; Florence, who became the wife of J. W. Herrbold, of Sturgeon Bay, and died leaving one child, Philip; Oscar, who married Emma Vollitz, a daughter of John Vollitz, of Sturgeon Bay; Victor, who resides on the old home farm; and Cecil.

In Door county Cecil Smith has spent his entire life. His educational opportunities were those afforded by the district schools and by the high school of Sturgeon Bay. He continued his studies until he reached the age of fifteen and then came back to the farm, working with his father until the spring of 1915, when he and his brothers, Oscar and Victor, purchased the property and took over the farm, which they have since owned and cultivated. He is justly accounted one of the representative young farmers of the community and at the age of twenty-one years has gained a success that many a man of twice his years might well envy. He is energetic and progressive in all that he does and his characteristics promise further success in the future.

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#### ROY F. THORP.

Roy F. Thorp, a leading fruit grower of Gibraltar township, has an excellent farm on section 28, where he resides except during the winter seasons, when he makes his home in the village of Fish Creek. He was born in Egg Harbor, Door county, November 29, 1855, and is a son of Jacob E. and Maria R. (Claffin) Thorp, natives respectively of Oswego, New York, and of Little Sturgeon, Door county. The maternal grandfather, Increase Claffin, was the first white settler in Door county and the family has since been prominent here. Jacob E. Thorp was a cooper by trade and on removing to the west located in Rubicon, Dodge county, Wisconsin, whence he came to Fish Creek, Door county. Here he was employed for two years by Increase Claffin, who later became his father-in-law, and then removed to the present site of Egg Harbor, which was then a wilderness. In fact, he was the first white settler of that region and in making trips to Sturgeon Bay went on horseback along a trail cut through the woods, as there were as yet no roads. He established a cooper shop at Egg Harbor and after following his trade for some time transferred his activities to the hotel business. He also bought land, the cultivation of which he supervised, and he likewise conducted a general store until 1868. He then disposed of his interests in Door county and went to Jasper, Tennessee, where he remained for three years. On the expiration of that period he returned to Door county and located on a farm near Jacksonport, which he cleared and improved, and his remaining years were devoted to farming. He took an active interest in public affairs and for two



ROY F. THORP



terms capably served as county sheriff. He passed away August 25, 1882, and his wife was called to her final rest November 7, 1896.

Roy F. Thorp spent his boyhood and youth in Egg Harbor and Fish Creek and in the acquirement of his education attended the public schools. He remained with his parents until he attained his majority and then purchased land near his father's farm in Jacksonport township. After clearing the timber he plowed his land and devoted about seven years to the operation of that farm. He then sold the place and removed to Fish Creek, where he engaged in fishing until 1913. Previous to that, however, in 1910, he had bought forty acres of land on section 28, Gibraltar township, and that place is now one of the most highly developed fruit farms of the county. He has a splendid orchard of fifteen hundred apple trees and fifteen hundred cherry trees and he has also set out two thousand currant and gooseberry bushes. He has found this county well adapted to the raising of trees and small fruit, and as he has managed his affairs on a strictly business basis he has realized a good profit from his fruit. He owns an attractive home in Fish Creek and there resides during the winter months.

In July, 1877, Mr. Thorp was united in marriage to Miss Matilda Chambers, and they have five children, namely: May, who is the wife of Al Kinsey, and is postmistress of Fish Creek; Bertha, who married Martin Kinsey, now a resident of Montana; Pearl, who is living in Fish Creek; Grace, the wife of Bert Barringer, a resident of Montana; and Mearl, who is engaged in the growing of fruit in partnership with his father and who is also town treasurer. Mearl Thorp married Edna McCloud and they have two children: Duncan R., born May 10, 1914; and Kenneth M., born March 22, 1917. Mrs. Matilda Thorp passed away February 14, 1892, after a short illness, and her demise was the occasion of much sincere grief. On the 29th of September, 1894, Mr. Thorp was again married, choosing as his wife Miss Anna Olson.

Mr. Thorp supports the democratic party at the polls and has served as chairman of the town board, was postmaster at Fish Creek for fourteen years, held the office of assessor of Jacksonport township for two years and for the past thirty years has been a member of the school board and is still serving in that capacity. He is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America, of which he is now consul, and his religious faith is that of the Methodist Episcopal church. As he has been a lifelong resident of Door county he is thoroughly familiar with its opportunities and possibilities and is convinced that they are the equal of those to be found elsewhere. He has a wide circle of friends and his genuine worth is attested by the fact that those who have known him longest hold him in the warmest regard.

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#### PEDER HANSEN.

Peder Hansen is now devoting his attention to the operation of his farm near Detroit Harbor but for many years was a sailor on the Great Lakes. It was natural that he should turn his attention to navigation interests, as he is a native of Norway, which country is famous for its excellent sailors. He was born July 14, 1851, and is a son of Hans Madtsen, who was employed on a nobleman's estate in that

country. The boyhood and youth of our subject were passed in Norway and there he received a common school education. In 1871, however, he crossed the Atlantic to America and made his way to Door county, Wisconsin, where he remained for twelve years. At the end of that time, in 1883, he returned to Norway on a visit and on again coming to America he was accompanied by a large party, including his family and forty other people. He worked as a farm hand for some time, was also employed by the Wisconsin Central Railroad for a period and likewise cut cordwood at Ephraim.

On first coming to Washington Island in 1872 Mr. Hansen turned his attention to fishing, which occupation he followed until his marriage in 1876. He then purchased one hundred and sixty acres in partnership with his brother and cleared and improved the land, to the cultivation of which he devoted a great part of his energies. As it took some time to develop the farm and as prices for farm products were low, he hauled cordwood for a time, thus adding to his income. There were many hardships to be endured and in the winter it was necessary to haul the water used in the home from the lake. Following the death of his wife in 1884 he sold his interest in the farm to his brother and became captain on a lake boat. He was so engaged for twenty-five years or until 1909 and became quite well known in the various lake ports. As a youth he had sailed on the high seas during the Franco-Prussian war and visited practically all parts of the world. His first financial interest in a ship was as half owner in the *Laurel*, and subsequently he purchased the large schooner *O. M. Nelson*, of which he was captain for many years or until it was lost on the reefs. He then acquired title to a three mast schooner, of which he was captain until he gave up navigation interests. He then purchased sixty-four acres of land near Detroit Harbor and erected new buildings upon the place. A part of the land is cleared, and his time and attention is taken up with its cultivation.

Mr. Hansen was first married at Rock Island in August, 1876, to Miss Caroline Jacobson, who was born in Norway but was brought to Washington Island when two years of age. She died in 1884, leaving a daughter, Inge, now the wife of C. W. Son, a resident of Minnesota. In 1885 Mr. Hansen married Miss Caroline Anderson, by whom he had five children: Anchor, who died in childhood; Harold, Alma and Myrtle, all of whom died of diphtheria when children; and Lena, who married Tom Gudman.

Mr. Hansen is a supporter of the republican party but has never taken an active part in politics. He holds membership in the Lutheran church and contributes to the support of its work. His has been an active and useful life, and he is justly held in high esteem by all who know him.

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#### PHILIP SCHONS.

Philip Schons, one of the industrious and practical farmers who have contributed to the agricultural development of Nasewaupée township, was born December 17, 1853, in the Rhine Province of Prussia, Germany, a son of Nick and Elizabeth Schons. In 1874 the parents came with their family to the United States and located in Kewaunee county, Wisconsin, where the father purchased



land. Both the parents, however, passed their last days with their son in Door county, the father dying in 1893 and the mother in 1907. They are buried in Kewaunee county.

Philip Schons attended school in Germany until he was thirteen years old and then worked for others until he came to the United States with his parents. At length he purchased his father's farm in Kewaunee county, which he subsequently sold as he had decided to remove to Door county. He now owns eighty acres of land on section 27, Nasewaupee township, and has given the place the name of the Maple Lawn Farm. The improvements and buildings are modern, and he uses the most up-to-date machinery in carrying on his work. He raises both grain and stock and receives a gratifying income from his labors. He is also a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Company at Sawyer.

Mr. Schons was married July 18, 1879, to Miss Mary Moss, who was also born in the Rhine Province and came to the United States in 1864 with her parents, Joseph and Mary Moss. The family located in Manitowoc county, Wisconsin, and there the mother died in 1880, while the father survived until 1903. Both are buried in that county. Mr. and Mrs. Schons have the following children: Joseph, born July 16, 1881, is married and resides in Michigan City, Indiana; Mary, born August 20, 1883, is the wife of John Leitner of Nasewaupee township; Matt, born in 1886, lives in Kewaunee county; Tressie, born May 22, 1888, married Joe Cramer of Chicago; Matilda, born April 3, 1890, is now Mrs. Henry Belke of Chicago. Theodore was born February 6, 1895; Lena, was born August 20, 1899; and Edna was born April 18, 1901.

Mr. Schons believes in the principles of the democratic party and supports its candidates at the polls. For six years while living in Kewaunee county he served as township treasurer and as road supervisor for several years. He and his family are communicants of the Catholic church of Maplewood and its work profits by his loyal support. During the years that he has been a resident of Door county he has gained a wide circle of friends and is highly respected by all who know him.

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### CHARLES LAUTENBACH.

Charles Lautenbach is familiar with all the arduous duties included in the development of a new farm. He has cleared and improved considerable wild land in Door county and is now the owner of an excellent farm on section 18, Jacksonport township, where he has eighty acres. He was born in Germany, November 20, 1869, and is a son of Gustav and Caroline (Schulz) Lautenbach. The father was a small farmer and merchant in Oberweidt, and about 1881 came to the United States with his family, establishing his home in Scranton, Pennsylvania, where he was employed in a cannery for a few years. He then removed to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he engaged in harness making for several years. About 1886 he came to Door county and purchased eighty acres of land on section 16, Jacksonport township. It was a tract of wild timber, in the midst of which stood a log house. He had to clear away the trees before he could cultivate crops, but with characteristic energy he began the development

of the place and added thereto many modern improvements. From time to time he also extended the boundaries of his farm by additional purchase, and he continued to cultivate his land until 1915, when he retired from active life and is now living with his children, following the death of his wife, who passed away in that year and was laid to rest in the Egg Harbor cemetery. They were parents of nine children: Charles; Minnie, now the wife of Nick Herbst, of Jacksonport township; Emily, the widow of Henry Baler, of the same township; Rudolph, of Jacksonport township; Louis, living in Egg Harbor township; Reinhart, of Jacksonport township; August, of Egg Harbor township; George, who follows farming in Sevastopol township; and Clara, the wife of Fred Fleishman, of Oddendale, Michigan.

Charles Lautenbach attended school in Germany to the age of twelve years but never had opportunity to continue his education in the United States, for his labors were needed in support of the family. He continued to work for his father until twenty years of age, at which time he went to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where for four years he was employed in the coal mines and on farms. He then returned and purchased a forty acre farm in Jacksonport township, Door county. It was a tract of wild timber land, which he cleared and developed, making his home thereon for several years. He then sold and bought the west half of the northwest quarter of section 18, Jacksonport township, and at once began to transform that place into a productive farm, upon which he still resides. He also owns eighty acres in Egg Harbor township. He has wisely and carefully managed his agricultural interests and has gained a substantial measure of success.

When twenty-three years of age Mr. Lautenbach was married to Miss Mary Zelhofer, a daughter of Frank and Caroline Zelhofer, and they are now parents of nine children: Emma, the wife of John Mosgaller, of Jacksonport township; and Pauline, Edward, Mary, Frank, Emil, William, Charles and Louis, all at home.

The religious faith of the family is that of the Catholic church. In his political views Mr. Lautenbach has always been a republican since age conferred upon him the right of franchise, but while he is a believer in the principles of the party, at local elections, where no party issue is involved, he often casts an independent vote. His entire life has been given to his farming interests and his diligence and enterprise have brought to him the success which is now his.

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#### WILLIAM H. BASTAR.

William H. Bastar, the efficient and popular young cashier of the State Bank at Forestville, was born at Algoma, Wisconsin, September 13, 1883. His parents, William and Anna (Sruka) Bastar, were born in Bohemia, the father in 1840. In the early '50s he accompanied his parents to the United States and the family home was established in Lincoln township, Kewaunee county, Wisconsin. The grandfather, Henry Bastar, took up government land and for a number of years devoted his time to its improvement. The conditions of life in this section of Wisconsin were then those of the frontier region. The land was unbroken, Indians

were numerous and wild game could be had in abundance. Deer were sometimes hunted by torch light from rafts and a great deal of the meat used in the homes of the early settlers was furnished by game. Henry Bastar endured all the hardships of frontier life but persevered and in time he developed an excellent farm. He was a good musician as were his four sons, William, Henry, Adolph and Charles, and as they all played different instruments they formed a small band. William Bastar grew to manhood in Wisconsin and for some time operated a grist mill known as the Fort Bridge Mill at Kewaunee. Later he had charge of a mill at Little Sturgeon Bay for a Mr. Gardner, but at length he returned at Kewaunee, where he resided during his term of service as county treasurer. Subsequent to that time he became a resident of Algoma, where he engaged in the hotel and liquor business for thirty-four years. He was chief of the city fire department for years and when he resigned he was presented with a handsome gold headed cane. At length he disposed of his business interests and retired from active life. He died in Algoma on the 19th of September, 1906, when he was sixty-six years old. His wife had also reached the age of sixty-six years when she was called to her final rest in 1907. He was staunch in his support of the democratic party and in addition to serving as county treasurer he was for a considerable period city treasurer and school treasurer. His wife came with her parents to Casco township, Kewaunee county, and resided upon the home farm there until her marriage. On that occasion she and Mr. Bastar walked from Casco to Algoma through the woods and across the creeks, the wedding being celebrated at a little log church then standing near Algoma. Her parents are both deceased, her mother having died at the age of seventy-eight and her father at the age of eighty-five years. Their last years were spent in the city of Algoma, where they owned a comfortable residence.

William H. Bastar passed his boyhood at Algoma and received his general education at the public and high schools. He also took a course in a business college at Milwaukee, after which he secured a position in Chicago as bookkeeper for the John V. Farwell Company. He remained there for a year and was then bookkeeper at the Bank of Algoma for two years and nine months. Later he entered the insurance business but in 1909 he organized the State Bank of Forestville. It received its charter on the 24th of December that year and opened for business on the 3d of January, 1910. He has since served continuously as cashier of the bank and the excellent condition of its affairs is proof of his sound judgment and thorough knowledge of banking. In 1914 the institution erected an attractive and substantial building in which it has since been housed and in 1916 the capital stock was increased from ten thousand to twenty-five thousand dollars. The deposits now total three hundred and fifty thousand dollars. Mr. Bastar is held in high esteem by his colleagues and is now secretary and treasurer of Group No. 3 of the Wisconsin Bankers Association. He is also secretary and treasurer of the local telephone company and treasurer of the village school board.

On the 13th of January, 1909, Mr. Bastar was united in marriage to Miss Helen Glander, a daughter of William and Albertina (Klatt) Glander, natives of Germany, who became early settlers of Pierce township, Kewaunee county, Wisconsin. The father passed away in 1911, but the mother still survives. To Mr. and Mrs. Bastar have been born three children: Kenneth, who died in infancy; William; and Roger.

Mr. Bastar is a democrat in political belief at this time and has served capably as treasurer of his school district. Fraternally he is a thirty-second degree Mason and the beneficent teachings of the craft find exemplification in his daily life. He has the musical ability characteristic of the family and when but thirteen years of age began to play the clarinet. He was a member of a band at Algoma and for some time belonged to the Olympic Orchestra at Milwaukee and the Daily News Orchestra at Milwaukee. He, like his father, is characterized by his marked public spirit, and his cooperation is sought whenever a project for the general good is to be carried out. His friends are many and all who have been brought in contact with him respect him highly.

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### JOHN BRETL.

John Bretl, a well known and successful farmer of Forestville township, was born in Austria, March 19, 1806. His parents, John and Barbara Bretl, passed their entire lives in that country, where the father engaged in farming.

John Bretl received his education in Austria but when fifteen years old emigrated to the United States. He at once made his way to Forestville, Wisconsin, as his uncle Michael Bretl owned land in that locality. After working for his uncle on the farm for two years he turned his attention to lumbering in the woods of northern Michigan for three years. In 1889 he purchased eighty acres of land on section 6, Forestville township, this county, to which he has since added forty acres. For fourteen years he lived in the log house that stood on the farm when it came into his possession but at the end of that time he erected a substantial frame house and other good buildings. His place is now well improved and he ranks with the substantial men of Forestville township.

Mr. Bretl was married in 1889, to Miss Margaret Mossman, who is a native of Manitowoc county. Her parents, Peter and Margaret (Stemper) Mossman, were born respectively in Austria and Germany but were among the first settlers of northeast Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Bretl have become the parents of ten children, namely: Leo; Mary; Anton; Tracey; Elixander; John; Joseph; Louis, who died when four years old; Lawrence; and Annie.

Mr. Bretl endorses the principles of the democratic party and casts his ballot for its candidates but has never desired office. He gives his undivided attention to his farm work and is rewarded by abundant crops.

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### MATHEW FOSS.

Mathew Foss is well known in Detroit Harbor, Wisconsin, where he has capably served as superintendent of docks. He was born in Denmark, October 10, 1858, a son of Christian Foss, who came to Washington Island, Door county, Wisconsin, in 1882. He passed away here, October 7, 1910, at the age of eighty-four years, and his wife died at the same age on the 2d of February, 1913. They were the parents of three children, those besides our subject being: Henry, who

is living in Oregon; and Mary, who is now the wife of William Lenneberg, of Milwaukee.

Mathew Foss attended the common schools of Denmark in the acquirement of his education but when sixteen years old came to the United States to try his fortune in this new country, where he believed exceptional opportunities were offered to the ambitious youth. For seven years he resided at Bedford, Massachusetts, where he was employed in a tannery, but in 1890 he came to Washington Island, Door county. For a few years following he worked in a stone quarry and then turned his attention to fishing, which business he followed continuously and successfully until 1913. He then received appointment as superintendent of docks and has since filled that position. He owns seventy-two acres of shore land, on which he has erected good buildings, and is also a stockholder and director of the telephone company and is the owner of the gasoline town dock.

On the 7th of July, 1880, Mr. Foss was united in marriage to Miss Minnie Allen, who was born upon the island. They are the parents of six children, namely: Mamie, now the wife of Harry Hagen; Laura; Agnes, who is the wife of Swereh Hagen; Raymond; Irma; and Howard.

Mr. Foss endorses the principles of the republican party but where no national issues are at stake usually votes for the best man. He has served as director of district No. 1 for the past ten years and has given the closest attention to the discharge of his official duties. He has gained a substantial competence through his own well directed labors and is generally recognized as a man of enterprise and sound judgment. His personal qualities are also such that he has gained many warm friends.

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#### DESIRE E. ENGLEBERT.

One of the well liked and successful farmers of Brussels township is Desire E. Englebert, who owns an excellent tract of two hundred acres on section 28. He was born in Belgium, December 6, 1841, a son of John B. and Mary (Josephine) Engelbert, who were born, reared and married in that country. The father followed the wagon maker's trade there but in 1856 came with his family to the United States on a sailing vessel which required fifty-eight days to make the voyage. The family continued their journey westward and located in Chicago, whence after a year they came to Brussels township, Door county, Wisconsin. The father bought eighty acres of land, to which he subsequently added at different times two other eighty acre tracts, thus bringing his holdings up to two hundred and forty acres. He cleared the heavy timber which stood upon the land and erected a log house which remained the family residence for a number of years, although it was eventually replaced by a brick structure. Both the parents passed away upon the home farm.

Desire E. Englebert received his education in Belgium, as he was fourteen years old when he accompanied the family to the United States. He was of great assistance to his father in clearing the home farm of timber and early became familiar with the agricultural methods best adapted to conditions here. He became the owner of a farm covered with standing timber, as was practically all

of the land in the county at that time, and in order to make a living he worked in Chicago during the summer months, while the winters were devoted to cutting the trees on his land and thus preparing it for cultivation. In that early day the nearest market was Green Bay and the settlers were confronted with the obstacles and hardships usually found in frontier localities. At length he had all his land under cultivation and as the years have passed he has harvested large crops and made many improvements upon his place, which comprises two hundred acres and which yields him a gratifying financial return. His residence is of brick and is attractive and commodious.

In 1864 Mr. Englebert was united in marriage to Miss Emerance Jasper, who was also born in Belgium but was brought to the United States by her parents when seven years of age. Her father purchased government land in Door county and there he and his wife resided until called by death. To Mr. and Mrs. Englebert have been born seven children, namely: Eugene; Louise; Joseph Edmond; Elina, who died when twenty-nine years of age; Josephine; Henry; and Nestor.

For many years Mr. Englebert has held local office, having served as chairman of the township committee for four years, for forty-four years has held the office of assessor and for twenty-seven years has been school clerk. The length of his service indicates that he has been both efficient and conscientious in the discharge of his duties and that he is held in high esteem by his fellow citizens. He is entitled to honor as one of the pioneers of the county and takes great satisfaction in the knowledge that his labors have been a factor in the upbuilding and development of his locality.

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#### HUGO SCHMILING.

The farming interests of Forestville township are well represented in the efforts of Hugo Schmiling, who lives on section 25, where he has a valuable property comprising one hundred and sixty acres of land, once covered with a dense forest growth but now converted into rich and productive fields. He has always lived in Wisconsin, being a native of Kenosha county, where his birth occurred February 23, 1872. His parents were Albert and Hannah (Grundwaldt) Schmiling, who were natives of Germany. The father was but six years of age when brought by his parents to the United States, at which time the family home was established in Algoma, Wisconsin, which was then a little village surrounded by an almost unbroken wilderness. The grandfather, Charles Schmiling, purchased a tract of land of eighty acres near Algoma and thereon built a log house, after which his attention was concentrated upon the work of clearing his land and further developing his farm. Both he and his wife spent their remaining days upon that place. Reared on the old homestead farm, Albert Schmiling worked with his father during his boyhood days and in the winter months attending public schools, thus acquiring his education. He came into possession of the old family homestead, to which he added from time to time as his financial resources increased until he had three hundred and seventy-five acres of valuable land. This he cleared and developed, converting it into a very valuable and attractive place. He also purchased the farm which is now owned by his son Hugo. Upon the old homestead he re-



MR. AND MRS. HUGO SCHMILING





mained for forty-six years, and when death called him, a life of great activity and usefulness was closed. His widow survives and is now living on the old home farm. Both were members of the Lutheran church.

Hugo Schmiling spent his youthful days on the old homestead farm near Algoma and his educational opportunities were those afforded by the public schools. When not busy with his textbooks he worked with his father in the fields and a number of years later he removed to his present farm on section 25, Forestville township, which was then a heavily timbered tract of land. Upon him devolved the arduous task of clearing much of this and he now has one of the best appearing farms in Forestville township. His fields are highly cultivated and produce excellent crops. They are divided by well kept fences and they are good buildings furnishing ample shelter for grain and stock. Everything about the place indicates the progressive spirit and enterprising methods of the owner, who ranks with the leading farmers of the community.

On the 6th of October, 1894, Mr. Schmiling was united in marriage to Miss Lena Schmidt, a daughter of Gustav and Alvina Schmidt, who are natives of Germany and on coming to the United States settled in Sheboygan, Wisconsin. Later they came to Forestville township, Door county, and they are now residents of Forestville. Mrs. Schmiling was born in Forestville township and by her marriage she has become the mother of seven children, namely: Melvin, Jennings, Alice, Edna, Florence, Sylvester and Viola. Such is the life record of Hugo Schmiling, one of the leading and progressive farmers of Door county, whose well directed activities have been the source of his success.

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#### GEORGE AHLSEWEDE.

George Ahlswede is serving acceptably as chairman of Brussels township and is also well known as an up-to-date and enterprising farmer. He was born in Kossuth township, Manitowoc county, Wisconsin, September 12, 1863, and is a son of Ludwig and Johanna (Ahrens) Ahlswede, both of whom were natives of Germany, where they were reared and married. The father, who followed the baker's trade in the fatherland, came to the United States with his family in 1842, the voyage being made by sailing vessel. They continued their journey westward by the Erie canal and the Great Lakes to Milwaukee, where they remained for a short time, after which they located near Manitowoc Rapids, the father taking up government land there. As soon as possible he cleared the timber and brought his land under cultivation, and he also devoted considerable time to working in the lumber camps in the winters. There were still many Indians in that section of the state and the conditions in general were those of a frontier region. Much of the meat used upon the family table was secured from wild game and for some time the residence was a log cabin. Wages were low in those days—often no more than seventy-five cents a day. There were many hardships to be endured, but in time prosperity rewarded the efforts of Mr. Ahlswede and his last days were spent in comfort. His farm of eighty acres was well improved and yielded large crops in return for his well directed labors.

George Ahlswede was reared in Manitowoc county and had the opportunity

of attending the district schools until he was fourteen years of age. He then accompanied his brothers, William and Edward, to Brussels township, Door county, and aided them in clearing and developing a farm. Subsequently he returned to Manitowoc county, where he followed the carpenter's trade for some time. During that period he purchased his present farm of one hundred acres in Brussels township, Door county, and in the fall of 1885 he took up his residence upon this place. He has made many improvements upon the farm, including the erection of commodious, substantial and well designed buildings, and his fields are in a high state of cultivation. He engages in general farming with marked success, deriving a good profit from the sale of grain and stock.

In 1886 Mr. Ahlswede was united in marriage to Miss Katie Katzenmeyer, a daughter of Lawrence and Catherine (Jost) Katzenmeyer, both of whom were natives of Germany. The birth of Mrs. Ahlswede, however, occurred in Manitowoc county, Wisconsin. By her marriage she became the mother of four children: Arthur; Emil; Lillian; and Katie, who passed away in 1892. After the death of his first wife Mr. Ahlswede married Miss Louisa Rupp, a daughter of George and Caroline (Haegele) Rupp, also natives of Germany. Seven children have been born to the second marriage, namely: Eleanor, Olga, Walter, Alice, Richard, Olive and Herbert. Mrs. Ahlswede died in January, 1911.

Mr. Ahlswede is a staunch adherent of the republican party and for the last four years has held the office of township chairman. For fifteen years he has served as school treasurer and during that time his influence has invariably been given on the side of advancement in educational matters. He is a member of the Baptist church and its teachings find exemplification in his daily life. He is not only generally recognized as a highly efficient farmer but is also esteemed for his unswerving integrity and held in warm regard because of his attractive personal qualities.

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#### WILLIAM GOETZ.

William Goetz, who is operating a one hundred and twenty acre farm of excellent land on section 34, Nasewaupsee township, and a forty acre tract in Forestville township, was born February 9, 1886, in Door county. His parents were Nick and Agatha Goetz, the former born in Germany on the 20th of June, 1841, and the latter in Manitowoc county, Wisconsin, in 1855. The mother, however, is of German descent. The father was brought to the United States in childhood and grew to mature years in Manitowoc county. He remained there until 1885, when he removed to Door county and located upon the farm now owned by his son William. The family are Catholics in religious faith. The mother passed away in 1888 and is buried in the Maplewood cemetery. To Mr. and Mrs. Goetz were born seven children as follows: Louise, who was born January 16, 1875, and died March 20, 1905; Philip, a resident of Manitowoc county; Frank, who is living in Saskatchewan, Canada; Josephine, who is the wife of George Brey; Mary, who married George Kolbeck; Peter, a resident of Wisconsin; and William, of this review.

The last named received a public school education and also devoted much

of his time as a boy and youth to helping his father with the farm work, thus gaining a practical knowledge of the cultivation of the fields and caring for stock. At length he purchased the home place, comprising one hundred and twenty acres in Nasewaupee township, from his father and he also owns forty acres in Forestville township. The land is under cultivation, and he annually harvests good crops. He also raises stock to some extent and finds that the two phases of farming coordinate well.

Mr. Goetz was married November 25, 1913, to Miss Ella Hennessey, who was born March 27, 1888, a daughter of John Hennessey of Nasewaupee township. To this union have been born two sons: Norbert, born November 8, 1915; and Harold, born June 8, 1917.

Mr. Goetz casts his ballot in support of the candidates of the democratic party and takes the interest of a good citizen in public affairs but has never desired to hold office. In religious faith he is a Roman Catholic. Although he is still a young man he has gained a measure of success that many of his seniors might well envy and he is recognized as a representative farmer.

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#### PHILIP GILLICK, JR.

Philip Gillick, Jr., a well known farmer residing on section 34, Nasewaupee township, was born in that township, April 7, 1876, a son of Philip and Anne Gillick. The birth of the father occurred October 15, 1830, in Ireland, and in 1866 he became a resident of Door county, Wisconsin. For forty years he worked as a lumber jack and followed that occupation both in Michigan and Wisconsin. He was impressed by the favorable opening for settlers in Door county and was instrumental in inducing many people to move here from Chicago. He had some property in that city but part of it was lost in the great fire of 1871. For a number of years after he came to this section the Indians were numerous and deer were frequently seen and afforded meat for the lumbermen and settlers. He was a Catholic in religious faith, and his political belief was that of the democratic party. He served as pathmaster for a number of years and was very efficient and conscientious in the discharge of his duties. He was married in 1871, to Miss Anne Kinney, who was born in Ireland, March 6, 1850. To their union were born the following children: James, born September 6, 1871; Thomas, born January 26, 1873; Pat, who was born August 16, 1874, and died July 24, 1892, his remains being interred in Maplewood cemetery; Philip, born April 7, 1876; Ed, born June 10, 1877; Mary, born February 2, 1879; Richard, who was born December 10, 1880, and died January 2, 1881, being buried in Maplewood cemetery; Ellen, who was born December 27, 1881, and died April 27, 1899, being buried in the same cemetery; Anne, who was born December 22, 1883, and died January 19, 1884, also buried in Maplewood cemetery; Julia, born December 23, 1884, and died January 15, 1885; Agnes, who was born July 3, 1886, and lives in Kenosha, Wisconsin; Richard, who was born June 2, 1888, and is a farmer in South Dakota; Anne, who was born November 24, 1889, is at home; Joseph, who was born October 30, 1891, and engages in farming; Elizabeth, who was born August 31,

1893, and died the 9th of the following September, being buried in Maplewood cemetery; and Margaret, born February 22, 1895.

Philip Gillick, Jr., was accorded the usual opportunities of the farm boy, attending the district schools for a number of years. He early began assisting his father with the work of clearing and operating the home farm and by the time that he attained his majority he was an experienced agriculturist. In 1916 he purchased the homestead, which comprises eighty acres on section 34, Nasewaupee township, and is one of the highly developed and valuable farms of the locality. Practically his entire attention is given to the cultivation of his fields and the care of his stock and as the years pass his resources are steadily increasing, for he manages his affairs well.

Mr. Gillick supports the republican party but has never had the time to take an active part in politics. He has, however, served acceptably as constable of his township. He belongs to the Farmers Union and can always be depended upon to cooperate with others in movements seeking to advance the agricultural interests of the county. His entire life has been passed in Nasewaupee township, and his genuine worth is attested by the fact that those who have known him intimately since boyhood are his staunchest friends.

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#### PERRY BUTLER.

An excellent farm property pays tribute to the efforts and energy of Perry Butler, whose place is located on section 17, Jacksonport township. There are found many modern improvements and the work of development is being carried steadily forward along the most progressive lines. Mr. Butler was born in Hastings county, Ontario, Canada, March 28, 1871, a son of James and Mary (Gallaher) Butler, who were natives of Ireland but were married in Toronto. The father, who followed farming in Canada, removed to Door county, Wisconsin, when his son Perry was but a year old and purchased the home farm upon which Perry Butler now resides, becoming owner of eighty acres. After a time, however, he sold forty acres of this land. His place was covered with the native growth of trees which he cleared away. He built a log house and actively took up the work of the farm and continued to develop and improve his property until his death, which occurred August 16, 1894. His widow survived him for almost twenty years, passing away March 10, 1914. They were both laid to rest in the Catholic cemetery in Jacksonport. After becoming a citizen of the United States Mr. Butler voted for some time with the democratic party but later joined the republican ranks.

Perry Butler is a representative of one of the pioneer families of Door county, and his education was acquired in one of its old-time schools, which he attended until he reached the age of sixteen years. He then worked for his father until the latter's death, when he came into possession of the old home place. His farm now comprises the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter and the northwest quarter of the northeast quarter of section 17, together with the northwest quarter of the northeast quarter of section 20, Jacksonport township, making altogether one hundred and twenty acres. This he farms, residing upon the home

place with his brother Ned and sister Maria, and he is accounted one of the substantial and progressive agriculturists of his community. He and the other members of the family are faithful members of the Catholic church.

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### ROBERT LUETHGE.

Robert Luethge, living on section 17, Jacksonport township, is numbered among the self-made men of Door county who owe their success entirely to persistent effort and individual enterprise. Starting out in life empty handed he is now the owner of one of the finest farms in his section of the county. He was born in the province of Saxony, Germany, November 23, 1846, and is a son of William and Sophia (Pagals) Luethge, the former a tailor by trade. Both he and his wife spent their entire lives in Germany, where they reared their family of four children: Carl, who is still a resident of that country; Anna, the deceased wife of John Lornbrech, of Kenosha, Wisconsin; one who died in infancy; and Robert.

The last named pursued his education in Germany to the age of fourteen years and was then employed at farm work until he reached the age of eighteen. The stories which he heard concerning the opportunities of the new world led him to try his fortune on this side of the Atlantic. He came alone to the United States and made his way across the country to Kenosha county, where he was employed as a farm hand until 1876. In that year he came to Door county and purchased the northwest quarter of the southwest quarter, and also the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 17, Jacksonport township. Later he added another forty acre tract to this, becoming owner of one hundred and twenty acres. This was wild timber land upon which not a furrow had been turned nor an improvement made and no road had been laid out to the farm. He built a log cabin and began life in true pioneer style, meeting many of the hardships and privations incident to the development of a new district. He at once began to cut down the trees and clear away the brush and continued the work of developing the place until he brought it to a state of high cultivation, making it one of the fine farms of Jacksonport township.

On the 28th of August, 1876, Mr. Luethge was united in marriage to Miss Alvina Pofhal, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Pofhal, who were natives of Germany and became early settlers of Kenosha county, where they passed away. Mr. and Mrs. Luethge have become parents of eight children: Carl, born October 15, 1877, married Matilda Fisher, a daughter of Herman and Minnie Fisher, early settlers of Jacksonport township, where they are still living. They have three children, Vera, Goldie and Bernice. Carl Luethge is the treasurer of the school board in his district and is assisting his father in the further development and improvement of the home farm. John, the second of the family, is living in Milwaukee. Anna is the wife of John Grovogel, of Jacksonport township. Elizabeth is the wife of Charles Sawyer, of Sturgeon Bay. Matilda married Charles Heinz, of Jacksonport township. Alma became the wife of George Lautenbach, of Sevastopol township. Lillian is the wife of Edward Krueger, of Egg Harbor. Fred, who completes the family, is at home.

Mr. Luethge is a republican where national issues are involved, but votes independently at local elections. He has never sought nor desired political office but has served as school director and was treasurer for a number of years. He belongs to the Evangelical association and his sterling traits of character have made him one of the respected and valued citizens of Jacksonport township.

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#### PETER BLONDE.

Peter Blonde, who is successfully engaged in farming eighty acres in Egg Harbor township, was born in Canada in January, 1857, but his parents, Nicholas and Elizabeth (May) Blonde, were both natives of Germany. On leaving that country in 1846, they located in Canada, where the father followed agricultural pursuits until 1866, when he removed with his family to Brown county, Wisconsin. There he purchased land, to the cultivation of which he devoted his energies until his demise in February, 1899, and eight days after his death his wife passed away.

Peter Blonde was but a child when the family home was established in Brown county, this state, and there he grew to manhood and received his education. He remained with his parents until he became of age, and then, in 1878, he took up his residence in Door county, buying his present farm of eighty acres on section 25, Egg Harbor township. As soon as possible he cleared his land and placed it under the plow, and as the years have passed he has made many improvements on his farm, which is now a valuable and highly developed property. He does general farming but pays considerable attention to dairying, milking eleven high grade Holstein cows. All his work is carefully planned and he derives a gratifying income from his land.

In October, 1873, occurred the marriage of Peter Blonde and Miss Louise Lewis, and they have become the parents of fourteen children: Alfred, Nicholas, Martha, Phillip, Susan, Eva, Isabelle, Raymond, Hilda and Hubert, who are living, and four deceased.

In exercising the right of franchise Mr. Blonde votes for the men who in his opinion are best fitted for the offices in question without reference to party affiliations. He is a Roman Catholic in religious faith and is loyal to the teachings of that church. During the many years of his residence in this county he has gained a wide acquaintance and has won the warm friendship of many.

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#### CHARLES ZILL.

Charles Zill, who is still living upon the farm which in the early days he cleared and brought under cultivation, is one of the representative agriculturists and citizens of Sevastopol township. A native of the state, he was born in Manitowoc county, December 22, 1860, and is a son of David and Paulina Zill, who in 1848 emigrated to the United States from Germany, their native land. They at

once took up their abode in Manitowoc county, which was then just being settled, and continued to reside there until called by death.

Charles Zill was educated in the public schools of his native county and in his young manhood lived in a number of places, spending the greater part of his time, however, in the state of Michigan. In 1885 he came to Door county and located upon his present place, which then, however, bore little resemblance to the modern, well improved farm of today. At that time it was a tract of timber and his first task was the clearing of the land. As the years have passed he has further developed the place and his well directed labors have been rewarded by abundant crops, from the sale of which he has received a good profit. His home place comprises seventy acres of the west half of the northeast quarter of section 8, Sevastopol township, and he also holds title to a forty acre tract on the southeast quarter of section 36, Egg Harbor township.

Mr. Zill was married on the 2d of December, 1887, to Miss Rosa Bahr, by whom he has the following children: Flora, who was born July 7, 1889, and is now Mrs. Frank Starr, of Sturgeon Bay; Elvina, who was born July 2, 1891, and married Charles Wolfram, of Sevastopol township; Edna, who was born May 21, 1893, and married H. J. Dogge, of Sturgeon Bay; Adeline, born April 4, 1895; Hilda, who was born December 24, 1896, and is now the wife of Winfred Johnson, of Baileys Harbor; Norma, who was born March 28, 1898, and married Eli Stokeman, of Sturgeon Bay; Cora, born May 9, 1900; Charles, April 30, 1902; Howard, July 14, 1904; Mabel, May 10, 1906; and Helen, January 3, 1908.

Mr. Zill is a loyal supporter of the republican party and has acceptably filled a number of local offices. For seven years he was road supervisor, filled the position of chairman of the board for a term of one year and also finished an unexpired term in that office. For many years he was a director of school district No. 5, for six years was treasurer thereof and for two years was clerk of the district. He is a member of the Lutheran church and for twenty-three years has been secretary of the congregation in Sevastopol township. His life has been a factor in the agricultural, the political and the religious development of his township and he is justly ranked among its leading citizens.

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#### WENZEL PIVONKA.

Wenzel Pivonka, a well known and successful farmer residing on section 21, Nasewaupée township, was born in Bohemia on the 23d of September, 1851. He received his education in that country, where he remained until he was twenty years of age. In 1871 he came to the United States and took up his residence in Kewaunee county, Wisconsin, whence eight years later he came to Door county. He purchased eighty acres of land, which he cleared and on which he erected a residence and other buildings. Subsequently he bought an eighty-five acre tract across the road from his home farm and has since operated the entire one hundred and sixty-five acres. When he first came to this county he was employed for a time in the Lawrence lumber mills but with that exception has engaged in farming continuously since 1879. His land is in a high state of cultivation and he

derives therefrom a gratifying profit. He is also a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator and was instrumental in organizing the local telephone company.

In 1872 in Kewaunee county, Mr. Pivonka was united in marriage to Miss Anna Soukup, who was born in Bohemia, April 24, 1859, and came to America in 1871. To their union have been born the following children: Anna, who is now Mrs. August Noll and resides in Milwaukee; Mary, the deceased wife of Anton Wetak; Wenzel, Jr., who is farming with his father; Fannie, who married Fred Schultise of Nasewaupee township; Emil, who is a carpenter residing in Sawyer; Emily, who is the deceased wife of Frank Hemple and is buried in the Shoemaker cemetery; and Charles, who is also with his father.

Mr. Pivonka gives his political support to the democratic party and has filled local office with great credit to himself and satisfaction to his constituents. For eleven years he was supervisor and for many years was road overseer. He is a devout Catholic and contributed generously to the erection of the Corpus Christi church at Sawyer, of which he is a communicant, and to the church at Maplewood. He belongs to the Catholic Knights and is popular in that organization. He is now in comfortable circumstances as the result of his own industry and good management, and he is esteemed as one of the progressive farmers of his township.

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#### AUGUSTUS W. LAWRENCE.

Conditions on the peninsula which forms Door county are particularly favorable to fruit growing and among those whose enterprise and business judgment have prompted them to enter this field of labor and win therein substantial success is Augustus W. Lawrence, whose progressive spirit is manifest in the capable and efficient manner in which he conducts his interests. He was born at Sturgeon Bay, June 24, 1875, and is a son of Augustus W. and Emily J. (Marshall) Lawrence, the former a native of Maine and the latter of Brown county, Wisconsin. The father removed to Sturgeon Bay in the early '50s and here embarked in the lumber business, owning and operating a sawmill. He was one of the principal subcontractors on the building of the canal and he was also engaged in merchandising on an extensive scale for many years. In fact he was one of the prominent business men in the county. His sound judgment enabled him to discriminate readily between the essential and the nonessential in business affairs and his keen sagacity enabled him to direct his efforts along those lines where fruition is certain. In addition to his other activities he engaged in farming and he had one of the first cherry orchards of the county for commercial purposes. He likewise figured in financial circles as a director of the Merchants Exchange Bank and in his undertakings he accumulated a large fortune, but in later life met with reverses through endorsing commercial paper for others. Those whom he trusted did not make the promised payments and therefore upon him came the loss that greatly reduced his fortune in his later years. He was a man of the strictest integrity and honor in his business affairs and his word was recognized as being as good as any bond that was ever solemnized by signet or seal. He was a man with many friends. All who knew him respected and





MR. AND MRS. AUGUSTUS W. LAWRENCE, SR.



honored him and his genuine worth was acknowledged by those with whom he came in contact. His political endorsement was given to the republican party and in matters of citizenship he always took a progressive stand. He passed away January 30, 1911, and his wife survived him for only a week, passing away on the 6th of February. She was a consistent member of the Congregational church and, like her husband, was highly esteemed wherever known. They had a family of three children: Ruth E., deceased, who was the wife of L. M. Washburn, of Sturgeon Bay; Ella E., the wife of Charles J. Martin, of Sturgeon Bay; and Augustus W.

The last named acquired a public school education and entered business circles in connection with L. M. Washburn, with whom he was associated in the conduct of a mercantile enterprise for three years. Mr. Lawrence afterward became a shoe merchant, conducting a store for six years, and while thus engaged he turned his attention in part to farming. He disposed of his shoe store in 1901 to concentrate his attention more largely upon agricultural and horticultural pursuits. He has also been engaged in contract work in street paving and both branches of his business have proved profitable. In 1909 he took up fruit raising in connection with D. E. Bingham and is now interested in several hundred acres of fruit. The success which he has won in fruit production indicates his methodical and progressive methods. He closely studies every question bearing upon the business and is thus able to speak with authority upon the subjects of soil, climatic conditions and all those things which have to do with successful horticulture. In 1915 he established a herd of pure bred Guernsey cattle. In a word, he is one of the most alert, energetic and progressive agriculturists of the peninsula and his business has become a profitable one.

On the 3d of February, 1898, Mr. Lawrence was united in marriage to Miss Jennie M. Packard, of Sturgeon Bay, a daughter of Charles and Anna Packard. They have an adopted son, Charles Augustus.

Mr. Lawrence belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternity and in his political views he is a stalwart republican. He has served as alderman of the second ward and is president of the council and chairman of the board of public works at the present time. He closely studies all questions relative to the welfare and upbuilding of his city and county and exercises his official prerogatives in support of many progressive public measures. In office he ever holds partisanship as secondary to the general welfare and at all times is actuated by a public-spirited devotion to high ideals of citizenship.

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#### FERDINAND BABLER.

Ferdinand Babler, who has built up a large patronage as blacksmith and wagonmaker at Maplewood, Forestville township, was born a little south of the village, October 30, 1875. His parents, Ferdinand and Mary (Aurmillier) Babler, were both born in Austria, the latter in Bohemia, and were married in their native country. The father was a farmer by occupation and on emigrating to Manitowoc county, Wisconsin, in the early '50s took up his residence on a tract of fertile land. Subsequently he purchased eighty acres of government land a little

south of Maplewood and the remainder of his active life was devoted to the operation of that place. He was one of the pioneer farmers of Door county and had to clear his land of timber before it could be planted to crops. The abundance of wild game afforded the early settlers with meat for their tables and most of the pioneer homes were log cabins. The Indians were found in large numbers. Mr. Babler spent his last years at Maplewood, where he lived retired in a comfortable residence which he owned. He passed away in 1911, but his wife survives at the age of seventy years and is now residing with her son Jacob in Maplewood. The religious faith of the family is that of the Catholic church, and the father was a strong democrat in politics.

Ferdinand Babler entered the district schools of Forestville township, Door county, at the usual age and divided his time in his boyhood and youth between acquiring an education and doing the work that usually falls to the lot of the farm bred boy. For one year he worked in a sawmill in Menominee, Michigan, and for six years spent the winter months in the lumber camps and the summer months upon the home farm, which he aided in operating. In 1898 he began learning the blacksmith's trade in the shop of Leathem & Smith of Sturgeon Bay, where he spent thirteen months, and then was for some time employed as horseshoer in various shops. In 1901 he established himself in business independently in Maplewood where he has since remained. In addition to doing general blacksmithing and horseshoeing he conducts a wagon shop and gives considerable attention to manufacturing automobile springs. He is a skilled workman and his trade has grown rapidly, exceeding all his expectations. He owns a comfortable residence in Maplewood and is in excellent circumstances. He is also vice president of the bank at Maplewood.

In 1904, in Forestville, Mr. Babler was united in marriage to Miss Katie Goetz, a daughter of Joseph and Mary Goetz and a native of Manitowoc. The six children of Mr. and Mrs. Babler are as follows: Cecilia, Alphonse, Cryracus, Gregory, Edmund and Bernice.

Mr. Babler is independent in politics and has never been a candidate for office, for his business affairs require his entire time and attention. He has made all that he has and the prosperity which he now enjoys is evidence of his ability and energy. He has a wide acquaintance in the county and his friends include practically all who have come in contact with him.

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#### M. J. SOUKUP.

M. J. Soukup, of Nasewaupee township, has not only developed one of the finest farms in the county but has also been a prime mover in many projects that have proved of great value to his locality. A native of Bohemia, he was born June 8, 1851, and remained in that country until 1871. In that year he crossed the Atlantic to the United States and made his way to Tisch Mills, Manitowoc county, Wisconsin, but in 1872 came to Door county. After working in the Lawrence Lumber Mills for some three years he purchased eighty acres of land on section 16, Nasewaupee township, from Ed Kenny for four hundred and twenty-five dollars. He cleared the tract of timber and began its cultivation and proved so suc-

cessful as a farmer that he was able to purchase an additional one hundred acres some time later. He erected excellent buildings upon his land and otherwise improved the place, making it a model farm. He has since sold eighty acres, however, to his sons Charles and George but still resides upon the place. He has gained a substantial competence and is a stockholder in the local elevator. He was instrumental in securing the telephone line and also in the establishment of the mail route.

Mr. Soukup was married in 1875 to Miss Bonus Duffek of Nasewaupee township, who passed away on the 17th of August, 1899, and is buried in the Maplewood cemetery. They were the parents of three children: Mary, at home; George, who is now operating eighty acres of the home farm; and Charles, who was born August 8, 1886, received his education in the common schools and purchased eighty acres of land from his father in the spring of 1917.

Mr. Soukup casts his ballot in support of the candidates of the democratic party but has never sought nor desired office. He is a communicant of the Roman Catholic church and has been a generous contributor to the congregations at Maplewood and Forestville. He is respected for his integrity as well as for his enterprise and public spirit and his personal friends are many.

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### JOHN B. DAVIS.

John B. Davis is prominent among the active, enterprising and successful business men of Sturgeon Bay, where he is engaged in the wholesale and retail business as a seedsman. He has built up a large and gratifying trade founded on his enterprising methods and reliable dealings. A native of New York, he was born at Cape Vincent, December 4, 1865, a son of Richard and Mary (Cummins) Davis, who were natives of Ireland and on crossing the Atlantic to the new world settled in Canada. This was in the year 1847. In the year 1848 they went to New York, where the father engaged in business as a dealer in coal, wood and ice, continuing active along this line in New York to the time of his demise, which occurred in May, 1909. His wife had passed away in September, 1907.

John B. Davis was reared and educated in New York, enjoying the privileges afforded by the public schools and thus becoming prepared for life's practical and responsible duties. He remained with his parents until he reached manhood when he secured a position with the A. B. Cleveland Seed Company, which was one of the first firms in the seed business. He remained with that house for nine years, becoming thoroughly familiar with the trade in every particular. He afterward went to Picton, Ontario, where he engaged in business on his own account. Associated with four others he formed the John H. Allen Seed Company in 1893 and remained in business there until 1901, when he sold out and went to Chicago, where he continued for eight months. At the end of that time he came to Sturgeon Bay and entered the employ of Goodwin & Harnes, pea and bean growers, managing their business until 1911. In March of that year he organized the John B. Davis Seed Company, which he conducted in that way for two years. On the expiration of this period he bought out his partner's interest and continued the business alone until June, 1917, when he sold to The Farmers Company, but re-

mained as manager of the business, which is conducted along both wholesale and retail lines. He is thoroughly familiar with the trade, his long experience bringing him intimate knowledge of the business, while his capable management has led to success. Mr. Davis is also the vice president of the Door County State Bank and has long been well known and prominent in the business circles of Sturgeon Bay.

In 1894 Mr. Davis was united in marriage to Miss Nellie Dougherty, and they have become the parents of three children: John T., who was born September 5, 1895, and died when but fifteen days old; Laurence J., born November 5, 1896; and John V., born February 14, 1905.

The religious faith of the parents is that of the Catholic church and Mr. Davis belongs to the Catholic Order of Foresters, to the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Knights of Wisconsin. In politics he is a democrat and while he has never sought nor desired political office, he has served as president of the library board for six years and has been a member of that board since it was organized. He takes a deep and helpful interest in everything relating to the public welfare and his genuine worth as a man and as a citizen is widely acknowledged.

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### JOHN P. PAULSEN.

John P. Paulsen, proprietor of the West Harbor Hotel for the past fifteen years, has in that connection built up a profitable business. His birth occurred October 24, 1852, in Christiania, Norway, and he is a son of Ole and Martha Paulsen. The father passed away in his native country on the 11th of August, 1863, and in 1883 the mother and her daughter Fannie emigrated to the United States and took up their home on Washington Island, Door county, Wisconsin, where Mrs. Paulsen passed away February 16, 1894. She had three children: John P.; Fannie, now Mrs. Ole Hagen and still a resident of the island; and Charles Martin, of Detroit Harbor.

The boyhood and youth of John P. Paulsen were spent in his native country and when only fourteen years old he became a sailor. In 1869 he landed at Galveston, Texas, and from that time he has resided in the United States. In 1879 he located in Chicago, where he was employed by a wholesale house until 1891, when he received an appointment as a letter carrier, and for twenty-three years he worked in that capacity, but in 1914 resigned his position and took up his residence upon the forty-five acres of shore land at West Harbor, Wisconsin, which he had purchased in 1900. He first came to Washington Island in 1884 while on his vacation and was so pleased with the place that he returned every summer until he took up his permanent abode here. When he purchased the property which he owns there was an old sawmill located thereon and a boarding house for the mill hands. He has since remodeled the latter and made it into a modern and attractive hotel and he receives a good share of the resort custom. He knows the things that most appeal to the people who come here for their annual outings and spares neither time nor expense in meeting their requirements.

On the 30th of November, 1882, Mr. Paulsen was united in marriage to Miss Mathilda Hendricksen, of Chicago, who, however, was born in Christiania. It

was in 1871 that she came to America in company with her parents, John and Caroline Hendricksen. Her father learned the decorator's trade in Norway and was employed in that capacity by Field & Leiter, of Chicago. Mrs. Paulsen received her education in the schools of that city and remained at home until her marriage.

Mr. Paulsen is independent in politics, casting his ballot for the man whom he deems best fitted for the office without regard to his political affiliation. He is now serving as town clerk, in which capacity he is making an excellent record. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias and in religious faith is a Norwegian Lutheran.

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### JOHN JOE SCHMELZLE.

John Joe Schmelzle is a well known business man of Forestville, being a partner in the Schmelzle & Brey Company, dealing in agricultural implements and automobiles. He was born September 13, 1887, in Forestville township, and is a son of William and Minnie Schmelzle. The father was born near the city of Manitowoc, Wisconsin, and after acquiring a public school education began to work in the logging camps and the sawmills of this section. Later he engaged in farming in Forestville township, Door county, and at length purchased forty acres of land, which he subsequently traded for an eighty acre tract. Still later he became the owner of an additional forty acres, upon which he is now living. Until the fall of 1916 he cultivated his entire holdings but is now leaving the operation of his farm to others. He is a staunch republican in politics and for nine years filled the office of assessor, while for a considerable period he was school clerk. He is a communicant of the Roman Catholic church and has always taken a praiseworthy interest in its work. He has reached the age of fifty-eight years and his wife, who is a native of Germany, is now fifty-two years old. They are the parents of the following children: Henry, who married Ivy Vradly; John Joe, of this review; Frank, who married Dora Schlier of Maplewood; George, who married Kate Sloss of Maplewood; Anna, who is the wife of Joseph Shoemaker, a resident of Maplewood; Edward; Theresa; Julia; Josephine; and Louise.

John Joe Schmelzle passed his boyhood and youth upon the home farm in Forestville township and attended district school No. 3 in the acquirement of his education. Three years were devoted to the carpenter's trade and he then followed blacksmithing for eight years. In 1915 he formed his present business connection as a member of the firm of Schmelzle & Brey and the rapid growth of the business has been due in no small measure to his energy and wise discretion. The firm handles standard lines of agricultural implements and also deals in the Maxwell, Buick and Oakland automobiles. Its trade has already reached gratifying proportions and its continued growth is assured.

Mr. Schmelzle was married in 1911, to Miss Augusta Brey, a daughter of Anton and Augusta (Vitisky) Brey and a native of Forestville. Her parents were born in Germany but became early settlers of Door county. The mother passed away July 28, 1915, but the father survives. To Mr. and Mrs. Schmelzle have been born three children: Cornelius, Ambrose and Gretna.

Mr. Schmelzle endorses the principles of the democratic party and votes its

ticket at the polls. He is now serving as township clerk and gives the same careful attention to the discharge of his official duties that he has always given to the management of his private affairs. He is one of the youngest business men in the county but has already demonstrated the possession of more than usual ability.

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#### IGNATZ KLAUBAUF.

Ignatz Klaubauf, who owns an excellent eighty acre farm on section 15, Nasewaupee township, was born January 26, 1853, in Bohemia. His education was acquired in that country, where he remained until 1876, when at the age of twenty-three he came to the United States. He at once located in Door county, Wisconsin, and for four years worked in the Lawrence Lumber Mills. He then purchased land, his present farm, comprising eighty acres, all of which is cleared and it is excellently improved. There are fine orchards upon his place and he has contributed to the development of the horticultural interests of the county. He derives a good income from his land and has accumulated a competence as a direct result of his own industry.

On November 8, 1880, Mr. Klaubauf was united in marriage to Miss Francis Duffek of Nasewaupee township, and they have the following children: Anna, who is now Mrs. Bernard Strong of Nasewaupee township; Katie, the wife of Joe Ferris of Sturgeon Bay; Frances, who married Peter Witte of Green Bay; John, a resident of Manitowoc, Wisconsin; Frank, at home; Joe, who is in the United States army; Marie, who died in January, 1917, at the age of twenty-three years and is buried in the Maplewood cemetery; Mate, who is a clerk in a clothing store in Sturgeon Bay; and Leona, at home.

Mr. Klaubauf casts his ballot in support of the men and measures of the democratic party but is not otherwise active in politics. He is a communicant of the Maplewood Roman Catholic church and belongs to the Catholic Knights. He is recognized as a successful farmer and horticulturist, as a good citizen and as a man of unquestioned integrity.

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#### ARNI GUDMUNDSEN.

Arni Gudmundsen, who is residing on section 8, Washington township, has developed a fine orchard of cherries and apples and is giving his time to the management of that property. He was born February 2, 1845, in Reykjavik, Iceland, of the marriage of Thordur and Johanna Gudmundsen. The father resided in Copenhagen, Denmark, for seven years when a law student at the university.

Arni Gudmundsen studied under private tutors in his native country and remained there until 1872, when he determined to try his fortune in the new world and emigrated to the United States. He at once made his way to Door county, Wisconsin, and engaged in cutting wood for a time. In 1881 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of good land on section 8, Washington township. He



has since disposed of half of that tract, but retains the ownership of eighty acres and is successfully engaged in the raising of apples and cherries. He was one of the prime movers in the establishment of the first creamery on the island and was one of the organizers and is still a stockholder of the telephone company.

Mr. Gudmundsen was married on the 20th of February, 1878, to Miss Halldora Petersen, whose birth occurred in Iceland, May 14, 1854. She came to the United States in young womanhood and passed away November 8, 1893. To Mr. and Mrs. Gudmundsen were born nine children, namely: Anna, deceased; Johanna, who died in childhood; Margaret, the wife of Carl Richter, residing on Washington Island; Laura, who married Jule Hagen and also resides on the island; Thor-dur and Magnus, both of whom are living on Washington Island; Paul, who is living on the island; John, who is a member of the National Guard; and Halldor, a resident of Racine, Wisconsin.

Mr. Gudmundsen is a strong advocate of republican principles and for thirty-six years has filled the office of treasurer of his township. For more than a quarter of a century he has been justice of the peace and he aided in organizing school district No. 3, of which he served as director for a long period. It will thus be seen that he has played an important part in local affairs and that he holds the entire confidence of his fellow citizens. He belongs to the Lutheran church and its work profits by his material and moral support.

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#### ALBERT S. BIRMINGHAM.

Albert S. Birmingham is not only one of the up-to-date and prosperous farmers of Sevastopol township but is also a leader in the affairs of local government. He was born in Oconto county, Wisconsin, February 5, 1867, and is a son of Andrew and Julia (Grant) Birmingham, both of whom were born, reared and married in the Empire state. In 1865 they became residents of Wisconsin and in December, 1867, settled in Sevastopol township, Door county. The father became the owner of the northwest quarter of section 22, all of which was at that time heavily timbered save fifteen acres. His first task was to bring his land under the plow and this having been done, he made other improvements upon the place, which came in time to be one of the most highly developed farms of the county. He died in September, 1893, but his wife survived for many years, her demise occurring May 30, 1916. Both are buried in the Bayside cemetery. He cast his ballot in support of the candidates and measures of the republican party and took the interest of a good citizen in public affairs. He began his career with no capital save his energy and natural business ability but in the course of time gained a gratifying measure of material prosperity. To him and his wife were born seven children, namely: Jeannette, deceased; Richard, who resided for some time in Sevastopol and Sturgeon Bay townships, this county, but is now deceased; Altha, the widow of Mitchel Le Plante of Sturgeon Bay; Henry, also a resident of Sturgeon Bay; Ida, the deceased wife of Fred Mann of Sevastopol township; Albert S.; and Jesse, deceased, who passed his entire life on the home farm.

Albert S. Birmingham acquired a public school education but when sixteen years old turned his entire attention to farm work, assisting his father until the

latter's death. He then purchased the south half of the homestead on which the residence is located. He has made many additional improvements upon the place, has kept everything in the best of repair and in his work has always been quick to adopt improved methods or appliances. The farm is a valuable property and his well directed labors are rewarded by splendid crops. He is not only an industrious and progressive agriculturist but is also a good business man and operates his farm on strictly business principles.

Mr. Birmingham was married September 9, 1891, to Miss Anna Gaeth, a daughter of Fred and Augusta Gaeth, early settlers of Egg Harbor. The father has passed away and is buried in the Egg Harbor cemetery, but the mother survives and makes her home with Mr. and Mrs. Birmingham. To this marriage two children have been born, namely: Nellie, who is the wife of Fred Ash of Sevastopol township and has two children, Edwin and Evelyn; and Aberdeen, who is at home.

Mr. Birmingham is staunch in his allegiance to the republican party and has held public office for many years. For more than two decades he was road commissioner; for seven years has been town supervisor; in 1916 was chairman of the board; and for three years was school director; and he has always manifested a deep concern for the advancement of the local educational system. He has fully justified the confidence of his fellow citizens and has discharged all of his official duties with marked efficiency. Fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America. He is one of the prominent citizens of his township and his personal qualities are such that he has won a host of warm friends.

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### JOHN G. OLLINGER.

The life record of John G. Ollinger is closely interwoven with the history of Door county, where he has made for himself a prominent position in connection with public affairs and in business circles as well. He is one of the native sons of the county, his birth having occurred in Maplewood township on the 1st of March, 1881, his parents being Michael and Mary (Kessen) Ollinger. The father was born in Manitowoc county, Wisconsin, and was a son of Nicholas Ollinger, who was a pioneer of that county. It was in the place of his nativity that Michael Ollinger was reared, educated and married and about 1876 he removed to Door county, establishing his home upon a farm in Maplewood township, where he lived for five years. On the expiration of that period he brought his family to Sturgeon Bay, where he has since made his home. His wife was also born in Manitowoc county and by their marriage they became the parents of nine children: Rose, who is the wife of J. W. Ruffing of Chicago; John George; Frank; Joseph; Edward; William; Ann; Louise; and Edith. The last named died in early childhood.

John G. Ollinger was but a year old when the family home was established in Sturgeon Bay and here he pursued his education as a pupil in parochial schools and in the high schools. He had qualified for the work of the senior grade when he put aside his textbooks there and became a student in a Milwaukee business college. He started upon his business career as bookkeeper and timekeeper with

the Door County Canning Company and continued with that firm for four years. He was afterward connected with the Allen Seed Company for a time and later occupied a clerical position with the Ahnapee & Western Railroad Company. Each change indicated a progressive step in his business career but in early manhood he was called to public office and for more than a decade devoted his attention to duty in that connection. He was but twenty-two years of age when elected city treasurer of Sturgeon Bay as the nominee of the republican party, entering upon the duties of the position in 1904. The promptness and ability with which he met the responsibilities devolving upon him in this connection led to his reelection and he was chosen for the office again and again until his service covered twelve years and retired from the position as he had entered it—with the confidence and goodwill of all concerned.

Mr. Ollinger has done other important public work, contributing to the progress and development of city and county. In 1907, following the organization of the Door County Fair Association, he became its secretary and filled the position for four years. In 1911, after resigning that office, he was chosen secretary of the Sturgeon Bay Commercial Club and in 1916 he was recalled to the position of secretary of the Fair Association, in which capacity he is now serving. He became an active factor in insurance circles in December, 1910, when he purchased the insurance agency of R. H. Mann, and since that time he has given his attention to the insurance and loan business, handling fire, automobile, accident and life insurance as the representative of many of the strongest and most reliable companies of the country. In this connection he has won a large clientage and his business is now a very substantial and gratifying one. He is also the secretary and the business manager of the Sturgeon Bay Fruit Package Company, of which he was the organizer.

Mr. Ollinger is identified with several fraternal organizations promoted by the Catholic church, of which he is a communicant. He belongs to St. Joseph's Catholic church, to the Knights of Columbus, to the Catholic Order of Foresters and to the Catholic Knights of Wisconsin. He has many friends in the county, enjoying the warm regard and high esteem of the great majority of those with whom he has come in contact. His business and his official record has been a commendable one, winning for him the endorsement of all who know aught of his history.

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#### WILLIAM O. MUELLER.

William O. Mueller, of Brussels township, has devoted his life to agricultural pursuits and has gained a gratifying measure of prosperity. He was born in Kosuth township, Manitowoc county, this state, October 14, 1863, and is a son of August and Henrietta (Ostreich) Mueller, both of whom were born in Germany, where their marriage occurred. In 1861 they came to the United States and the father purchased sixty acres of land in Manitowoc county, Wisconsin, to which he subsequently added at different times a sixty acre tract and a forty acre tract. Before he could raise grain or other crops it was necessary to clear the timber from the land and this entailed much hard work. At length, however, he brought

his place under cultivation and as the years passed his resources steadily increased, for he received a good profit from his agricultural operations. He erected a good frame residence and otherwise improved the place, and there he resided until called by death in 1906. He had survived his wife for sixteen years, as her demise occurred in 1890.

William O. Mueller received the usual training of the farm bred boy, dividing his time between helping his father and attending school, and after completing his education he concentrated his energies upon the operation of the homestead until 1887. In that year he purchased eighty acres of land in Brussels township, to which he at once removed and on which he still resides. It was totally unimproved when it came into his possession and his first task was to clear the timber. He erected good buildings, divided his fields by substantial fences and otherwise improved the place and has so ably managed his affairs that he has gained a competence. He has now retired from active work and has given the farm to his son, Rudolph A., who is successfully cultivating it.

In 1887 Mr. Mueller was united in marriage to Miss Emma Barnhardt, a daughter of Robert and Bertha (Krause) Barnhardt and a native of Forestville township. Her parents were born in Germany but came to the United States in young manhood and young womanhood, and both located in Algoma, Wisconsin, where they were married. The father subsequently became the owner of a farm in Forestville township, which he operated until his death in 1903. The mother is still living. To Mr. and Mrs. Mueller have been born eight children: Eleanor; Rudolph A.; Leona; Anna; Esther; Leo, who died in infancy; Gertrude; and Ruben.

Mr. Mueller is a stanch advocate of republican principles and supports the candidates of that party at the polls, although he has never otherwise taken part in politics. He is a communicant of the Lutheran church and in its teachings are found the principles which have governed his life in its various relations.

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#### FRED G. WAGNER.

Fred G. Wagner, a representative farmer of Jacksonport township, living on section 17, was born in Germany, July 21, 1872, his parents being George Christ and Elizabeth Wagner, who came to the United States when their son Fred was a lad of nine years. He had attended school in Germany for three years and afterward became a pupil in one of the pioneer schools of this state, but had the opportunity of continuing his education only through two winter terms. The family were in straitened financial circumstances and his aid was needed in the development of the home farm. He assisted in the task of clearing the land and remained upon the place until he reached the age of twenty-two, after which he was employed by others at farm labor for two years. He was married and purchased eighty acres of land on section 17, Jacksonport township, which was but partly developed and his labors have wrought a marked transformation in the place. He cleared away the timber, plowed his fields and has introduced all modern improvements. He has recently erected a large barn with cement floors, stanchions,

and every modern equipment for the care of stock. He has also remodeled his home and has one of the best improved farms in the county.

On the 11th of April, 1890, Mr. Wagner was married to Miss Lena Ernst, a daughter of August and Christina (Gunder) Ernst, who were natives of Germany, where they were reared and married, and their daughter Lena was also born in that country. They became early settlers of Jacksonport township, Door county, Wisconsin, and took up their abode upon the farm now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Wagner, with whom they are still living. By their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Wagner have become parents of eight children: Aurclia; Lucietta; Hildegard; Irene; Louis; Ernst; Oscar; and Hugo. The religious faith of the family is that of the Lutheran church. Both Mr. and Mrs. Wagner are widely known and highly esteemed. He ranks with the representative agriculturists of his section of the county and owns one of its best improved farms, which is the visible evidence of his active and well spent life.

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#### LEWIS LEIDERITZ.

Lewis Leideritz, who is devoting his time and attention to the operation of his excellent farm on section 6, Forestville township, was born in Centerville township, Manitowoc county, Wisconsin, July 3, 1868, a son of Ernest and Louise Leideritz. The father was born upon the ocean while his parents were emigrating from Germany to the United States and was brought by them to Centerville township, Manitowoc county, Wisconsin. The grandfather bought a tract of land, on which he built a log house with a straw roof, a typical residence of that period. The conditions then existing are further indicated by the fact that Indians were numerous and game was plentiful and the greater part of the county was covered by dense forests. Mr. Leideritz cleared his land and brought it under cultivation and followed agricultural pursuits until his death. His wife also passed away upon the home farm. Their son Ernest grew to manhood in Centerville township and received his education in a log schoolhouse. In early manhood he worked in the woods and sawmills near the shore of Lake Superior and was also for a time employed in the copper mines. In 1862 he put aside all personal interests and enlisted in a cavalry regiment in the Union army, serving at the front for three years. Following the close of hostilities he returned to the homestead and for a number of years continued to reside there. He also sold farm machinery and built up a good trade in that connection. At length, however, he disposed of the farm and removed to Manitowoc, where he died at the age of seventy-six. He was a Lutheran in religious faith and in politics was a republican. He served as treasurer and as road supervisor in Centerville township and gave the closest attention to the discharge of his official duties. He was married previous to entering the army, and his wife passed her entire life upon the homestead, dying there when forty-six years old.

Lewis Leideritz spent his boyhood under the parental roof and received a district school education. For some time he worked in the lumber woods near Menominee, Michigan, and later was similarly engaged in Marathon county, Wisconsin. On deciding to turn his attention to farming he purchased eighty acres of

land in Marathon county, but two years later he sold out there and removed to Manitowoc, where he devoted three years to drilling wells. In 1807 he purchased his present farm of one hundred and twenty acres on section 6, Forestville township, Door county, and has since erected a substantial and attractive residence thereon and otherwise improved the place. He gives a great deal of thought to the management of his farm work and receives a good profit from the sale of his grain and stock.

In 1890 Mr. Leideritz was married to Miss Louise Dittman, a daughter of Fred and Minnie (Bull) Dittman, both of whom were born in Germany. Mrs. Leideritz, however, is a native of Manitowoc county, this state. Eight children have been born to this marriage, namely: Walter, Emma, Della, Leone, Harry, Clarence, Olivia and Anita.

Mr. Leideritz has been a lifelong republican but has never been very active in public affairs although he has served acceptably as supervisor for three terms. He gives the closest attention to the discharge of his duties in that capacity and is recognized as a capable official. The moral standards which have governed his life are indicated by the fact that he is a communicant of the Lutheran church

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#### FRANK A. KRUEGER.

Frank A. Krueger, who is residing on section 19, Sturgeon Bay township, has been connected with the agricultural advancement of Door county and also with the building up of the cheese industry and with mercantile interests. He was born in Kewaunee county, Wisconsin, on the 28th of March, 1864, and is a son of Frederick and Marie (Buske) Krueger. The father was born September 1, 1826, in Coslin, Germany, a son of Michael and Henrietta (Herg) Krueger. In 1844, when about eighteen years of age, he entered the German army, in which he served two years, and later he was stationed at Berlin for nine months. For two years he was in the service of a baron as coachman but in 1852 took ship at Hamburg for New York. He continued his journey across the country to Milwaukee, where he remained until 1856, when he went to Ahnapee. He was employed there in a mill for some time, but in October, 1864, enlisted at that place in Company E, Seventeenth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He was with Sherman on his march to the sea and was for some time confined to a hospital in Beaufort, South Carolina, whence he was sent to Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, and was honorably discharged from the army shortly afterward. He took up his residence in Sturgeon Bay township, Door county, purchasing eighty acres of timber land on section 19. During the winter he was employed by A. W. Lawrence, the pioneer lumberman. In 1858 he was united in marriage to Miss Marie Buske, who was a daughter of Fred and Henrietta Buske, natives of Germany. Mr. Buske passed away September 8, 1890, and Mrs. Buske died in 1886, at Chippewa Falls. Mr. Krueger was a member of Henry Schuyler Post, No. 226, G. A. R., at Sturgeon Bay and found a great deal of pleasure in associating with other veterans of the Civil war. In politics he was a republican and took a keen and intelligent interest in public affairs. He passed away on

the 20th of September, 1908, but is survived by his widow who resides with her son, Frank A.

To Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Krueger were born eight children, namely: Fred J., who died May 16, 1914; Frank A., of this review; Ida, who is the wife of Joseph Rafenstein, a resident of California; Louise, who married Ferd Bartz, also a resident of California; Rose, the wife of Charles R. Saults of California; Ameba, the wife of the Rev. Frank Hartell of Chicago; Lydia, who married Phillip Mann, a resident of Nasewaupsee township, this county; and Ella, now Mrs. Ed Knoechel of Cincinnati.

The boyhood and youth of Frank A. Krueger were spent in the usual manner of boys reared in a frontier district and his education was that afforded by the school in district No. 3. The school house was built of logs and the furnishings were crude. The curriculum was limited but the school, inadequate compared with the present time, served well its purpose. Mr. Krueger continued his education in the high school of Sturgeon Bay and from 1882 to 1893 engaged in teaching in the country schools. At the end of that time he took charge of the home farm on section 19, Sturgeon Bay township, and recognizing that conditions in the county were such as to make dairying and its kindred interests profitable, he built a cheese factory—the first in this section. He was a director in the company which was organized for the operation of the factory and remained connected with that concern until the business was sold to Adam Brink. In this factory the Babcock tester was first used in this county. For a number of years he was likewise interested financially in the hardware business under the name of C. Wulf & Company, but in 1906 sold his interest to his partner. He is at present a director of the Farmers Elevator Company of Sturgeon Bay.

Mr. Krueger was married to Miss Ida M. Krueger, and they have the following children: Waubun C., born February 19, 1897, who is a graduate of the Sturgeon Bay high school and was a student in the College of Agriculture of the State University of Wisconsin for two years; Waldo F., born September 13, 1899; Herman W., born September 25, 1902; Estralla, who was born May 3, 1906, and is attending school; and Herbert, who was born September 8, 1908, and died when four and one half months old.

Mr. Krueger is a loyal member of the republican party and has served as school treasurer for several years and has also held the office of town clerk. In religious faith he is a Methodist and is now serving as a trustee of his church. He is likewise secretary of the cemetery association. He is a man of unusual enterprise and is not only successful in his own important business interests but also finds time to devote to various enterprises which will benefit his community.

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### SAMUEL BAGNALL.

Samuel Bagnall, who owned a good farm on section 21, Jacksonport township, was well and favorably known throughout Door county and his demise was the occasion of much sincere grief. He was born in Quebec, Canada, March 6, 1836, and was a son of George S. and Mary (Tolerton) Bagnall, natives of Dublin, Ireland. Following their marriage they removed to the province of Quebec and

there the father engaged in farming until his demise. Both are buried in the cemetery at Frampton, near the city of Quebec. To them were born four children: George, who was one of the earliest settlers in Jacksonport township, Door county, and is deceased; John, who also removed to Jacksonport township in an early day and who has passed away; Samuel; and Mary, the deceased wife of Charles Thorpe and likewise a pioneer of Door county.

Samuel Bagnall received his education in the public schools of the province of Quebec, in which the instruction was mainly given through the medium of the French language. When sixteen years of age he put aside his textbooks and from that time until he attained his majority aided in operating the home farm for his mother, his father having passed away. Following his marriage he resided near Frampton, Quebec, until 1883 and successfully operated a good farm which he owned there. In the year mentioned he removed with his family to Door county, Wisconsin, and purchased the southwest quarter of section 21 and the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter of the same section, in Jacksonport township, all covered with heavy timber. He erected a log house, which remained the family residence for a number of years, and set to work to clear his land, which in time he converted into highly cultivated fields. He was a successful general farmer and engaged in agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred on the 26th of September, 1891.

On the 24th of April, 1862, Mr. Bagnall was married to Miss Alice A. Wilson, a daughter of Joseph and Margaret (Hossack) Wilson, natives respectively of northern Ireland and of Scotland. They were married, however, in the province of Quebec and the father was well known as a pioneer merchant of Frampton. He passed away in that town but the mother spent her last years with her daughter, Mrs. Joseph Smith, in Jacksonport township, Door county, and is buried in a cemetery in this township. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson were the parents of six children, namely: John, who died in Garden City, Kansas; Alice; Margaret, the widow of Joseph Smith and a resident of Green Bay; Joseph, who passed away in Frampton, Quebec; Harry, a resident of Jacksonport, Door county; and James, who died in Quebec. Mrs. Bagnall was born April 10, 1845, is still living and resides upon the homestead in Jacksonport township. She is the mother of eight children, seven of whom were born in Quebec: George G., whose birth occurred on the 6th of January, 1863, and who is now residing in Jacksonport; Louisa, who was born August 7, 1865, and is the wife of William Hossack, of Cedarville, Michigan; Mary, who was born January 2, 1868, and married Isaac Bagley, a blacksmith residing near Iron River, Michigan; Joseph, who was born November 8, 1870, died January 18, 1906, and is buried in the Jacksonport cemetery; John T., who was born January 18, 1873, and is now a resident of Sevastopol township; Emma, who was born March 27, 1876, and is the wife of Henry Hossack, of Cedarville, Michigan; Samuel H., who was born January 4, 1881, and resides at Metaline, Washington; and Hector H., who was born in Door county September 9, 1884, and who is now operating the home farm.

Mr. Bagnall served as township supervisor for a number of years and his record in that connection was highly creditable to his public spirit and his efficiency. He was a republican in politics and loyally supported its candidates at the polls. He was a member of the Episcopal church and helped to build the church edifice. At the time of his death he was in excellent financial circumstances,



but when he began his independent career he was practically penniless and the success which he gained was therefore due entirely to his own enterprise and good management. He developed one of the best farms in the township and was recognized as an up-to-date and capable agriculturist.

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#### PETER TESAR.

Peter Tesar, a leading farmer of Nasewaupee township, is a Bohemian by birth and his natal day was April 3, 1854. He received his education in that country but in 1868, when fourteen years old, came to the United States. After living for about a year in Kewaunee county, Wisconsin, he removed to Little Suamico, Oconto county, in 1869. He worked for William and John Kros in the fisheries and was in the shingle business for some time but in 1871 went to Peshtigo, Marinette county, and in the fall of the year removed to Sturgeon Bay, Door county. In 1873 he entered the Lawrence mill and was there employed for about six years, after which he worked for the Lathrum, Scofield Company, in their sawmill and logging camp for six years. In 1885 he took up his residence upon a farm of one hundred and twenty acres on section 15, Nasewaupee township, which he had purchased in 1882. For a number of years he cultivated his land during the summer and worked in the north woods in the winter. He still resides upon his farm, which is all under cultivation and is highly improved. He engages in general farming and receives a good profit from the sale of his grain and stock.

Mr. Tesar was married on the 28th of September, 1882, to Miss Dora Knuesh, who was born July 26, 1863, in Bohemia, but accompanied her parents to Kewaunee county, Wisconsin, at the age of seven years. Mr. and Mrs. Tesar are the parents of six children, namely: John, who is living in Arizona; Joe, who is assisting his father; Anna, the wife of Theo Welter, a resident of Panama; Emma, who married Andrew Lawrence of Forestville; Jennie, who married Edmund Aznoe of Sawyer; and Steve, who is living in Monroe, Wisconsin.

Mr. Tesar is a staunch democrat and takes a keen interest in public affairs but has never been an office seeker. He is a member of the Catholic church at Sawyer and of the Catholic Knights. He has always been enthusiastic concerning the opportunities offered in Door county, to the man who is not afraid to work and was instrumental in inducing many new settlers to locate in his part of the county. He has a wide acquaintance and is held in high esteem.

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#### OLE BOWMAN.

Ole Bowman, an industrious and prosperous farmer residing on section 6, Washington township, is a native of Paskin, Norway. His birth occurred March 24, 1852, and he is a son of Anders and Olive Bowman, who in 1863 brought their family to the United States. After residing for a time in Milwaukee they removed to Two Rivers, Wisconsin, where for two years the father was em-

ployed in a tannery. The following three years were spent in Manitowoc and subsequently the family home was maintained for two years at Two Creeks. At the end of that time removal was made to Chicago but on the 28th of October, 1870, the family came to Washington Island, Door county, where the father took up one hundred and sixty acres on section 6. He cleared his land and sold wood in order to make a living, as it was some time before farming was very profitable in this section. He passed away April 19, 1900, when eighty-four years of age, and his wife died in June, 1892, at the age of seventy years. To them were born seven children, namely: Anne, now the wife of A. Wickmann; Ole; Martin, who died in Oshkosh; Carrie, the wife of A. Gee, of Chicago; David, who died in infancy in Norway; David, who is living in Idaho; and Jacob, who resides upon the homestead.

Ole Bowman attended school in both Manitowoc and Two Rivers and also received thorough agricultural training in his youth, for, like all farm boys, he began assisting with the work of cultivating the fields as soon as he was old enough. In 1874 he took up a homestead on section 6, Washington township and has since resided thereon. When it came into his possession the place was covered with timber, but he brought the land under cultivation and as the years have passed has made many improvements thereon. It is now one of the best and most attractive farms on Washington Island and he derives a gratifying income from its cultivation. He is also a stockholder in the creamery company.

In August, 1889, Mr. Bowman was united in marriage to Mrs. Laura (Aznoc) Laudenschlager. She passed away November 10, 1894, leaving a son, Walter, who was born August 3, 1891, and who was for three years a student in the State University at Madison and is now residing on the island.

Mr. Bowman is a republican in politics and has held local office. In 1881 he was roadmaster and in 1889 was treasurer of school district No. 3, which he aided in organizing in that year. He is willing to subordinate his personal interests to the public welfare and is recognized as a good citizen as well as a successful farmer and a man of sterling worth.

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#### WILLIAM G. HERRBOLD.

William G. Herrbold, a wide-awake and enterprising young farmer of Sevastopol township, was born in that township, June 22, 1843, and is a son of Valentine and Louisa (Wolff) Herrbold, natives of Ozaukee county, Wisconsin, where their respective parents were engaged in farming. Both grew to mature years in that county and were there married. In 1890, however, they removed to Door county, and the father purchased sixty acres on the northeast quarter of section 25 and southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of section 24, Sevastopol township. As the land was timbered it required a great deal of hard work to bring it under cultivation, but at length it was cleared and planted to the crops best suited to this region. The father erected good buildings and otherwise improved the place and was active in its operation until 1914, when he retired and took up his residence in Sturgeon Bay. In the meantime he had added to his holdings the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter of section 24, so that



WILLIAM G. HERRBOLD



his farm comprises one hundred and forty acres. He and his wife are now enjoying a well deserved period of leisure and have many friends in Sturgeon Bay as well as in the locality in which they formerly lived. They are the parents of five children, namely: Elsie, who is now Mrs. William S. Sperber of Sevastopol township; Laura and Nora, both at home; William G.; and one who died in infancy.

William G. Herrbold obtained his education in the public schools which he attended until he was sixteen years old. From that time until his father's retirement he aided in the operation of the home farm which came to his possession in 1914. He now farms the place independently and in the management of his affairs has shown soundness of judgment beyond his years. Another factor in his success has been his readiness to adopt new methods and appliances, and he has always taken great care to keep everything about the farm in excellent condition, thus facilitating his work.

On the 12th of September, 1914, occurred the marriage of Mr. Herrbold to Miss Alma Wiesner. Her parents were George and Anna Wiesner, who settled in Nasewaupee township in the early days. The mother passed away and is buried in a cemetery in that township, but the father is now living in Sheboygan. Mr. and Mrs. Herrbold have two children, Dale and Ruth. The parents are loyal members of the German Lutheran church and support its work in every way possible. Mr. Herrbold's political allegiance is given to the republican party but he has never been an office seeker, as he gives such close attention to his agricultural interests that he has little time for outside affairs.

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#### RICHARD ASH.

The death of Richard Ash, a highly esteemed farmer of Sevastopol township, was deeply regretted by all who had come in close contact with him, for he was a man of sterling worth. He was born at Whitefish Bay, Door county, September 28, 1861, a son of Richard and Mary Ash, both natives of England. They became residents in Sevastopol township, this county, in the early days of its development and after living for a time near Whitefish Bay removed to a farm comprising the west half of the southeast quarter of section 14, Sevastopol township. The father brought this land under cultivation, although it was timbered when it came into his possession, and continued to operate it until his death. His wife has also passed away and they are buried in the Bayside cemetery.

Richard Ash attended the pioneer schools until he was sixteen years of age and for six years thereafter gave practically his undivided attention to assisting his father. When twenty-two years old, however, he removed to a tract of timber land near Whitefish Bay that his father had taken up a short time after he returned from the Civil war. Mr. Ash of this review at once began to clear the place and also erected good buildings thereon. He resided there for ten years, after which he sold the farm and removed to Sturgeon Bay but six years later purchased the west half of the southwest quarter of section 16, Sevastopol township, and the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 17. Again he was confronted with the necessity of developing a tract of wild land and it

required a great deal of work to bring it under cultivation. In the course of years, however, he made it one of the best improved places in the locality and he annually harvested large crops, the soil being fertile and his methods of cultivation being at once practical and progressive. He was actively engaged in farming until his death, which occurred on the 7th of September, 1909, when he was still in the prime of life. His remains are interred in the Bayside cemetery.

On the 28th of July, 1884, Mr. Ash was united in marriage to Miss Mary Herman, who was born May 5, 1862. Her parents, Joseph and Caroline Herman, were both natives of Germany but were married in the United States. They were among the first settlers of Clay Banks township, Door county. Both have passed away and are buried in the Catholic cemetery at Sturgeon Bay. To Mr. and Mrs. Ash were born eleven children: Thomas, who is living in Sevastopol township; George, who died in infancy; Fred, a farmer of Sevastopol township; William, who died in infancy; Henry, who is aiding in the operation of the homestead but owns the northeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section 17, Sevastopol township, and has built a residence upon that place; Everett, who is associated with his brother in the operation of the home place; Richard, an agriculturist of Sevastopol township; Lucy, now the wife of Arthur Klessig of Sevastopol township; and Roy, Lillian and May, all of whom are at home.

Mr. Ash was a republican and discharged to the full his duties as a citizen but was never an aspirant for office. He had his own way to make in the world and the prosperity that he gained was due solely to his industry, his perseverance in spite of obstacles, and his good management. His widow resides with her children upon the home farm and has many friends throughout the county.

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#### ANTON SCHLISE.

Anton Schlise, who devoted the greater part of his life to farming, was well known in Forestville township and his death was deeply regretted. He was born in that township, February 14, 1866, a son of John and Anna Schlise, who were born respectively in Bohemia and Germany but were married in the United States, after coming to this country in the early '50s and after living for some time in Manitowoc, Wisconsin. Following their marriage they took up their residence in Forestville township, Door county, where both died.

Anton Schlise was reared upon the home farm and attended the district schools in the acquirement of his education. Following his father's demise he became the owner of the homestead and devoted twelve years to the operation of that place. He then sold it and for eight years engaged in the meat business in Sawyer. At the end of that time he bought one hundred and sixty acres at Strokes Corners near Ginders, where he farmed for one year. On selling that place he purchased a lot in Maplewood, on which he erected a hotel. He also put up other buildings and resided in Maplewood for three years, after which he disposed of his interests there and purchased eighty acres near that town and again turned his attention to agricultural pursuits. He also bought eighty acres in Brussels township, Door county, and his two farms returned him a good income. He aided in the organization of the Farmers Telephone Company and was vice presi-

dent of the bank of Maplewood. On the 20th of June, 1917, he was called to his final rest when fifty-one years old.

Mr. Schlise was married October 25, 1880, to Miss Mary Kscher, a daughter of Anton and Mary (Brechtel) Kscher, natives of Germany, who came to America when their daughter was only nine months old. This was in 1866 and they made their way to Manitowoc county, Wisconsin, where the father farmed until his removal to Forestville township, this county. He purchased land which subsequently came into the possession of Mr. Schlise of this review, and both he and his wife spent their last days upon that place. To Mr. and Mrs. Schlise were born eight children, as follows: Dora; Katie; Henry, who is operating the farm in Brussels township; Lawrence, who is farming the home place near Maplewood and is also engaged in business as a concrete contractor; Mark, who is the partner of his brother Lawrence in the contracting business; Andrew; Joe; and Walter.

Mr. Schlise was a Catholic in his religious faith and in 1901 organized the congregation near Maplewood. He gave his political support to the democratic party, whose principles he believed to be most conducive to good government, and his aid was always given to projects looking toward the advancement of his community. His was a busy and useful life, and the prosperity which he gained was well merited.

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#### HERMAN RODER.

Herman Roder of Nasewaupee township is recognized as one of the most progressive men in his part of the county and his own place, which he has named the Old Home Farm, is highly developed and splendidly improved. He is engaged in both dairying and general farming and derives a substantial profit from his land. His birth occurred at Port Washington, Wisconsin, December 30, 1874, and he is a son of Gottlieb Roder, a native of Germany. After living for some time in Port Washington, the father removed to Door county in 1880 and resided here until his death in March, 1908. He had survived his wife for two decades as she passed away in 1888. Both are buried in the Shoemaker cemetery.

Herman Roder received his education in the country schools of this county and was carefully trained in agricultural work by his father. For a few years in his early manhood he worked in the lumber camps but in 1898 took charge of the homestead. He has since purchased an additional eighty acres and his holdings now comprise two hundred acres of fertile land. In addition to raising grain for the market he is engaged in dairying having a fine herd of Holstein cattle, and all phases of his business are well managed. His years of experience as a farmer guard him against ill-advised innovations and impracticable schemes, but whenever a new method or appliance is devised that is of real value to the agriculturist he is always among the first to adopt it, and this readiness to profit by the discoveries of others has been a most important element in his success.

Mr. Roder was married February 13, 1904, to Miss Margaret Schultise, a daughter of Fred Schultise of Nasewaupee township. The children of this marriage are as follows: Earl, born February 7, 1905; Sylvester, December 19,

1908; Anita, November 13, 1911; Carl, January 16, 1913; Norman, July 4, 1915; and Donald, May 25, 1917.

Mr. Roder is a supporter of the republican party at the polls but does not hesitate to cast an independent ballot if he believes he can best serve the public welfare by so doing. He is a member of the Evangelical church and gives his loyal support to its work. He is a firm believer in local companies founded upon the cooperative principle and is a stockholder in the Farmers Telephone Company. He can always be counted upon to do his part in aiding all projects looking to the best interests of his community.

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#### OSCAR OLSON.

Oscar Olson, who holds title to an excellent farm in Sturgeon Bay township, was born in that township, March 12, 1871, a son of Halvor and Elise Olson. In the acquirement of his education he attended the schools of Sturgeon Bay and Clay Banks townships and when he was old enough he began to work on his father's farm. As time passed he was given more responsibility and this practical training in agriculture was an excellent preparation for the duties of his later life for he decided to follow the occupation to which he had been reared. Some of the land was still timbered and this he had to clear. In 1903 he bought his present farm from his father and has since made improvements upon the place, thus increasing its value. He holds title to the south half of the southeast quarter of section 30, Sturgeon Bay township, and derives a gratifying income from his labors.

Mr. Olson was married on the 27th of December, 1896, to Miss Anna Cecilia Olson, a daughter of T. O. Olson, of Sturgeon Bay township. Two daughters have been born to the marriage: Elise Marie, who was born October 1, 1897, taught in the parochial schools for a time and is now a member of the class of 1918 at St. Olaf College of Northfield, Minnesota. Helen Luella was born March 10, 1908.

Mr. Olson supports the republican party at the polls and has been called to office a number of times. He has been continuously treasurer of Sturgeon Bay township since 1896 and in 1905 was made supervisor of assessments, from which position he resigned because of the press of other duties. He was also school clerk of district No. 5 for one term. The family belong to the Norwegian Lutheran church and loyally support its work.

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#### GEORGE G. BAGNALL.

George G. Bagnall is the owner of a good farm of eighty acres situated on section 21, Jacksonport township. He is of Canadian birth, a native of East Frampton, Quebec, and was born January 6, 1863. He is a son of Samuel Bagnall, mentioned in connection with the sketch of Alice A. Bagnall on another page of this work. He acquired a common school education, but his opportunities in



that direction were somewhat limited. He worked for his father in Canada and afterward came to Door county, where he continued in his father's employ for two years. On the expiration of that period he purchased from his father the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter of section 21, Jacksonport township. This was a tract of timber land and he at once began clearing away the forest trees and the brush. While working upon his own place he was also employed by others, being thus employed for six years. After a time he extended the boundaries of his farm by the purchase of an additional forty acre tract, covering the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 21. This was also wild timber land. His efforts, however, have resulted in bringing about a marked transformation in this place. He has added all modern equipments and accessories known to the model farm of the twentieth century and has continuously carried on the work of cultivation with the result that his labors have brought forth rich harvests, and his annual income has been accordingly increased.

In 1888 Mr. Bagnall completed his arrangements for having a home of his own, for it was on the 6th of November of that year that he wedded Louise Sargent, a daughter of Edward and Katherine (Lightfoot) Sargent, who were of Irish and English descent respectively and were early settlers of Jacksonport township. The mother is still living upon the old homestead farm, but the father has passed away and was laid to rest in the Episcopal cemetery in Jacksonport township. Mr. and Mrs. Bagnall are rearing two adopted children, Mildred Margaret and Earl Breten, both of whom are still at home.

Mr. Bagnall belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Methodist church. He is a self-made man, who started out without assistance and without capital, but he used industry as the foundation for his success and has gradually built up a substantial fortune. He is now the owner of a nice farm, from which he derives a gratifying annual income.

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#### CHRISTIAN SAABYE.

Christian Saabye, who resides on section 6, Washington township, has many business interests, all of which are capably conducted. In addition to farming, dairying and fruit growing he also owns and conducts a sawmill and planing mill. His birth occurred in Copenhagen, Denmark, August 5, 1860, and he is a son of H. O. and Christine Saabye. In 1867 the father came to the United States and after working in Chicago for a year saved enough money to pay the passage of his family to this country. After he had been joined by his wife and children he came to Door county, Wisconsin, and took up a homestead of eighty acres. At that time he had so little money that he could not spare the added seven dollars that would have enabled him to take up a quarter section of land. He cleared and improved his eighty acre tract and subsequently added thereto an adjoining forty acres. At the time of his arrival in this county practically all of Washington Island was a dense forest although there was here and there a tiny clearing where some early settlers had established their homes. Even after part of the timber was cut the region was still quite wild and rough

in appearance, for the greater part of the land was still covered with stumps and debris. In that early day roads were unknown and when going to market at Washington Harbor it was necessary to follow blazed trails. In time, however, all of that was changed, good highways being constructed and the farms brought to a high state of development. H. O. Saabye placed sixty acres of his farm under cultivation and accumulated a competence. He was one of the organizers of school district No. 2, which included the settlement at Detroit Harbor, and had the contract for erecting the schoolhouse. He also served as clerk of that district for several terms and for one term was township assessor, while for a number of years he held the office of chairman of the township. He passed away in August, 1888, and his wife died in Denmark in 1913.

Mr. Saabye passed his boyhood and youth mainly in Door county and knows by experience the hardships which the pioneers were called upon to endure. He aided his father in clearing the home farm and likewise assisted him in erecting the first schoolhouse in district No. 2. At the latter's death he assumed the operation of the homestead and has proved a capable and energetic farmer. He now owns one hundred and eight acres of good land and previously held title to tracts of wild land which he disposed of at a good profit. In addition to general farming he engages in dairying to some extent and also has six acres of fine orchard. All his land is cleared, and the buildings upon the place are modern in design and attractive in appearance. He also owns a sawmill and planing mill and those interests have proved lucrative. He is likewise a stockholder in the creamery and telephone companies.

On the 19th of February, 1889, Mr. Saabye was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Jacobson, a daughter of Jacob Jacobson. She passed away October 25, 1890, and in February, 1892, Mr. Saabye wedded Miss Johanna Jensen. He has had seven children, namely: Eva, who died on the 11th of November, 1899, when nine months old; Walter, who was born November 15, 1906, and died in 1907; Ruth, born April 21, 1903; Esther, January 5, 1906; Julia, November 16, 1911; Harold, December 24, 1914; and Charles, August 8, 1916.

Mr. Saabye indorses the principles of the republican party and loyally supports its candidates at the polls although he has never been an aspirant for office. His life has been characterized by excellent judgment, progressiveness and enterprise and as a result of his industry and good management he has gained financial independence. Moreover, his personality is such that he has won and held the warm friendship of all who have been closely associated with him.

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### JOHN AELEARS.

John Aelears has been actively identified with blacksmithing, hotel keeping and farming during the years of his residence in Door county and now makes his home in Carlsville, where he is conducting a hotel and saloon and is also giving part of his time and attention to the development of a forty acre farm which he owns. He was born in Brown county, Wisconsin, March 5, 1877, and is a son of Joe and Hattie (Corsten) Aelears, the former a native of Belgium, while the latter was born in Brown county, Wisconsin. In the year 1866

the father came to the new world and established his home in Brown county, Wisconsin, where he took up blacksmithing, having previously learned his trade in his native land. He followed that pursuit in Brown county until 1887, when he removed to Brussels, Door county, where he again established a smithy, conducting his shop for many years. He was accorded a liberal patronage and thus made a good living. He now resides in Sawyer at the age of seventy-two years and his wife also survives.

John Aelears was largely reared and educated in Door county, being a lad of ten summers when his parents arrived in this district. He learned the blacksmith trade under the direction of his father and continued to engage in that occupation until 1914. In 1905 he removed to Carlsville, where he opened a blacksmith shop and also established a saloon. He continued to engage in blacksmithing until 1914, when he rented his shop, but still continues in the hotel and saloon business. In 1916 he purchased forty acres of land on section 28, Egg Harbor township, which he is now operating and developing. He has transformed this property into productive fields and everything about the place is indicative of his determined efforts and progressive methods.

In August, 1905, Mr. Aelears was united in marriage to Miss Julia Swavoda, and they have become the parents of five children: John; Pauline; Hough; Francis and Sarah. Mr. Aelears and his family are communicants of the Catholic church. In politics he maintains an independent course, voting without regard to party ties.

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#### FRANK H. KONRAD.

Frank H. Konrad, who owns and operates an excellent farm on section 10, Nasewaupee township, was born March 5, 1875, of the marriage of Franz and Louise Konrad. The father was born September 13, 1844, in Prussia, but in 1856 came with his parents to the United States. In 1874 he became a resident of Nasewaupee township, Door county, Wisconsin, and purchased a quarter section of land, which in time he brought under cultivation. During the last year of the Civil war he was at the front as a member of the Forty-fifth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. His military record was that of a brave and loyal soldier. Since 1912 he has lived retired in Sawyer. He holds membership in the German Lutheran church and organized a church of that denomination in Nasewaupee township. His initiative was also shown in his successful efforts to establish the first cheese factory in his locality and his efficient work in the campaign that resulted in securing the railroad. He was also among the first to invest in stock in the Nasewaupee Telephone Company and in many other ways he has contributed to the development of the county. As he prospered financially he purchased additional land, becoming at length the owner of three hundred and twenty acres. He is a staunch republican and served as supervisor for one term and as pathmaster for three years. Through his membership in the Grand Army Post at Sturgeon Bay he maintains pleasant associations with other Union veterans.

Frank H. Konrad was reared under the parental roof and during his boy-

hood and youth divided his time between attending the district school and aiding his father with the farm work. In 1911 he invested his savings in the John Hausemann farm, which he has since operated. The land is fertile, the buildings are substantial and his labors yield him a good income. In early manhood he was employed by the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad in Michigan for two years and he worked for an electric company in Minnesota for some time and for fourteen years spent the winter months in the lumber camps of Michigan. He now, however, devotes his entire time to his farming interests and takes great pride in the improvements on his place. He owns stock in the local telephone company and has found that investment a profitable one.

Mr. Konrad was married in 1912 to Miss Birdie Bach, who was born in Michigan, March 13, 1889, and was educated in the schools of that state. They have become the parents of three children, namely: Verne, Esther and Alvin.

Mr. Konrad is a loyal supporter of the men and measures of the republican party but has never cared to take an active part in politics. He contributes to the support of the German Lutheran church in which he holds membership, and his influence is invariably on the side of right and justice.

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#### CAPTAIN EDWARD S. VALENTINE.

Captain Edward S. Valentine is well remembered by many residents of Door county. For long years he sailed on the lakes and won his title as commander of vessels, being a captain for about twenty-four years. He was born at Shanty Bay, in Gibraltar township, Door county, May 18, 1860, a son of Andrew and Everina (Hill) Valentine, who were natives of Norway. They came to America in early life and established their home in Door county, where the father engaged in fishing. The mother died in November, 1897.

Edward S. Valentine was reared in Door county. He attended school in his native county and also pursued a course of study in the Spencerian College of Milwaukee. In early manhood he began sailing on the lakes and gained intimate and accurate knowledge of all questions connected with navigation. He was a captain on the lakes for about twenty-four years and owned two boats which he operated until his death. He became widely known in this connection, having an extensive acquaintance at many lake ports. He died after a four years' illness on the 2nd of April, 1908, and his death was the occasion of deep and widespread regret for he had gained friends wherever he was known.

It was on the 23d of December, 1890, that Captain Valentine was united in marriage to Miss Matilda Fobian, a daughter of Emil J. and Bertha (Hafamiester) Fobian, the father a native of Copenhagen, Denmark, and the mother of Germany. The father came to America in childhood. He was connected with the royalty of Denmark but never claimed any recognition of that fact. At the age of fourteen years he ran away from home and sailed for the new world, making his way westward to Menominee Falls, Wisconsin, where he was employed at the carpenter's trade. He later went to Milwaukee and thence removed to St. Louis, Missouri, where he resided for twenty-two years, passing away in that city on the 22d of April, 1904. For some time he had survived his

wife, who died April 8, 1882. To Mr. and Mrs. Valentine were born two children: Everett M., who was born October 16, 1891, and is now assistant manager of the Anderson House of Ephraim; and Albert, who was born April 4, 1897, and died in the same month. After losing her first husband Mrs. Valentine became the wife of Adolph Anderson on the 12th of December, 1906. He was born and reared in this locality and to this marriage has been born a son, Henry A., whose birth occurred on the 6th of March, 1909. After the death of her first husband Mrs. Anderson remained a widow for nine years and during that period she built what is known as the Anderson House, which she has since conducted, covering a period of nineteen years. It is one of the attractive hotels in Ephraim and can accommodate one hundred people, in addition to her seven cottages situated on the hillside overlooking the bay and commanding a beautiful view of the water and the surrounding district. Mr. Anderson conducts a general store, a dock and a warehouse, which business had been carried on for a number of years by his father. He is also a stockholder in a life insurance company. His political endorsement is given to the republican party and both Mr. and Mrs. Anderson are members of the Moravian church. They are widely and favorably known in the locality where they reside and they have the warm regard of an extensive circle of friends.

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#### GEORGE STEINER.

George Steiner, who owns and operates a good farm on section 6, Forestville township, has spent his entire life in this section of Wisconsin. He was born in Ahnapee township, Kewaunee county, May 2, 1867, and is a son of Andrew and Lena (Gittinger) Steiner, both natives of Estrich, Germany, where they were reared and married. In the early '60s they came to the United States and located in Ahnapee township, Kewaunee county, Wisconsin, where the father, who was a farmer by occupation, purchased eighty acres of timber land. As soon as possible he cleared his farm and began raising the usual crops, but it was a number of years before the income from his farm was very large as prices for grain and stock were low. This region was then sparsely settled and the nearest market was Algoma. It was an easy matter for the pioneer to secure all the wild meat he desired as game was plentiful. There were many Indians still left in Kewaunee county when Mr. Steiner settled in the district but in the course of time the land was all claimed by white men, and this section of the state now bears little resemblance to the heavily timbered district of the '60s. He had forty acres in his original farm and followed agricultural pursuits until he retired from active life, his death occurring when he was seventy-eight years old, and his wife reached the age of sixty-nine years. In politics he was a democrat.

George Steiner passed his boyhood and youth upon the home farm and divided his attention between attending school and helping his father. He received careful training in farm work and in November, 1903, purchased his present farm of one hundred and twenty acres on section 6, Forestville township, Door county. He has erected good buildings upon the place and the soil is

in a high state of cultivation. He raises grain and stock, and as he watches the market carefully he receives a good income from his land.

Mr. Steiner was married in 1882 to Miss Bertha Craffes, a daughter of John and Anna Craffes, who were born in Germany but in 1883 came to the United States. They resided in Casco, Kewaunee county, Wisconsin, for a time but subsequently removed to the vicinity of Sturgeon Bay, Door county, where the father bought one hundred and sixty acres of land, to the cultivation of which he devoted his time until he retired and removed to Sturgeon Bay. Later he resided in Sevastopol township, where he died when seventy-four years old, and the mother, who has now reached that age, still survives. Eight children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Steiner, namely: Francis, Louis, Marie, George, John, Irene, Philip and Lawrence.

The political views of Mr. Steiner accord with the principles of the democratic party, whose candidates he supports by his ballot. Although he takes the interest of a good citizen in public affairs he has never been an aspirant for office, preferring to concentrate his attention upon his farm work. He has many excellent qualities and since removing to Forestville township has made many friends.

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#### IRVING NELSON MOE.

The farm of Irving Nelson Moe on section 31, Sturgeon Bay township, is one of the finest dairying farms in that township and its excellent improvements are evidences of his prosperity and enterprise. He was born March 7, 1880, on his present farm and is a son of Knut and Elizabeth Nelson. The father was born in Norway but was brought to this country when but six years of age. The mother was born in Sturgeon Bay and is a daughter of Ole Gullickson, who served in the Union army during the Civil war.

Irving Nelson Moe attended the common schools of Sturgeon Bay township in the acquirement of his education and during his boyhood and youth received valuable training in agricultural methods. After leaving school he worked with his father, clearing and improving the home farm, and after a number of years purchased the place, which is now a valuable and highly developed dairy farm. Mr. Moe derives a gratifying profit from the sale of his dairy products and raises potatoes and peas extensively, finding those lucrative crops. For two years he resided in California, where he was engaged in concrete work.

On the 27th of June, 1911, Mr. Moe was united in marriage to Miss Emma Hovi, a daughter of Christian and Sigrid Hovi, who removed from Norway to Forestville township, Door county, Wisconsin, in 1880. Mrs. Moe, who was born February 10, 1882, received her early education in the common schools of Forestville and later attended the Wisconsin State Normal School at Oshkosh for a short time and took a course in domestic science at Stephenson Training and Agricultural School at Marinette. She followed the profession of teaching for ten years prior to her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Moe have two children: Irving, Jr., born March 21, 1913; and Eileen, born February 9, 1915.

Mr. Moe is a progressive republican in politics but confines his activities in

public affairs to exercising his right of franchise. He is a member of the Moravian church and strives to conform his conduct to the teachings of Christianity. He has a wide circle of friends in the county and those who have known him intimately since boyhood hold him in the highest esteem, which is unquestionable proof of his genuine worth.

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### JOSEPH SUCHEY.

Joseph Suchey, of Sevastopol township, who has met with gratifying success as a farmer, was born March 14, 1858, in Moravia, Austria. He attended the public schools in the acquirement of his education and later learned the harness-maker's trade, which he followed in that country until he attained his majority. When twenty-one years old he came to America and located in the middle west, working at harnessmaking in Milwaukee and Chicago. In 1895 he removed from Milwaukee to Door county, Wisconsin, and has since resided here. He owns a good farm on section 13, Sevastopol township, and finds that its operation leaves him but little time for outside interests.

Mr. Suchey was married in 1886 to Miss Mary Hudecheck, who was born in Milwaukee, April 13, 1858, a short time after her parents had removed to that city from their native Bohemia. To Mr. and Mrs. Suchey have been born five children, three of whom are living: Ida, born November 28, 1891; Frederick, May 12, 1893; and Lillian, July 12, 1896. Joseph and Frank are deceased.

Mr. Suchey is a republican, believing in the policies of that party, and he discharges to the full all the duties of citizenship but is not an aspirant for office. Fraternally he is connected with the Woodmen and the Mystic Workers. During the twenty-two years that he has resided in Door county he has manifested many sterling qualities and has gained recognition as an efficient agriculturist.

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### JOHN A. SARGENT.

John A. Sargent is one of the representative farmers of Door county, making an excellent record through the practical and progressive methods with which he is developing his land. He resides on section 15, Jacksonport township, upon a farm which has been in possession of the family for almost three decades. He was born in East Frampton, Quebec, Canada, February 24, 1862, a son of Edward and Katherine (Lightfoot) Sargent, who were natives of Canada and of Irish and English descent respectively. They had a family of ten children, as follows: Hannah became the wife of Robert Halstead, of Sturgeon Bay, and is now deceased. John A., the subject of this review, is the next in order of birth. Elizabeth is living with her brother John. Henrietta, now deceased, became the wife of James McNeill, of Wausaukee, Wisconsin, by whom she had two children: Edward, who was adopted by George and Louise Bagnall, of Jacksonport township; and Harry A., who died July 7, 1916, at the age of twenty-four years, being drowned while serving in the United States Coast Guard service at

Montague, Michigan. Louise is the wife of George Bagnall, of Jacksonport township. Sarah became the wife of Donald McCarthy, of Portal, North Dakota, and is now deceased. Margaret is the wife of David Calhoun, of Egg Harbor township. Grace married William Pettis, of Luxembourg, Wisconsin. Edith resides with her brother John. Maud, the youngest member of the family, is the wife of John F. Rowe, of Superior, Wisconsin.

It was in the year 1889 that the parents came with their family to this state and the father purchased the west half of the southeast quarter of section 15, Jacksonport township, Door county. This was a tract of wild timber land, which he at once began to clear and improve, making his home thereon throughout his remaining days, his death occurring March 22, 1893. He was laid to rest in the Episcopal cemetery and many friends mourned his loss, for he was a devoted husband and father, a faithful friend and a good citizen. His widow still survives and is enjoying excellent health at the age of seventy-five years. Mr. Sargent was a self-made man, for although he became the possessor of a comfortable competence he started out in life empty-handed and worked his way upward through industry and persistency of purpose.

John A. Sargent acquired a common school education in Frampton, but his opportunities were somewhat limited, for his services were needed upon the home farm. He continued to work for his father until he reached the age of eighteen years, when he left home and went to Wilson, Michigan, where he was employed in the lumber woods for a short period. He afterward spent five years in the employ of a lumber company at Garden Bay, Michigan, and then went to Nahma, Michigan, where he spent six years in the employ of a lumber company. On the death of his father he came to Door county and received title to the home place. Since then he has made a home for his mother and sisters and has continuously cultivated his farm, to which he has added the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 15. He now has an excellent property which he carefully and systematically manages.

Mr. Sargent gives his political endorsement to the republican party, and his religious faith is that of the Episcopal church. He belongs to the Mystic Workers of the World and is ever loyal to high and honorable principles. He has never been an office seeker, preferring to concentrate his efforts and attention upon his business affairs, and, starting out in life empty-handed, he has worked his way steadily upward to substantial success.

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#### OTTO C. KONRAD.

Otto C. Konrad, a well known farmer of Nasewaupee township, is a representative of a family that has been connected with the agricultural development of Door county for more than four decades. More extended mention of his parents, Franz and Louise Konrad, is given elsewhere in this work in the sketch of his brother, Frank H. Konrad.

Otto C. Konrad was reared upon the home farm and when not in school gave his time to assisting his father with the farm work. He thus became thoroughly familiar with the methods best adapted to the cultivation of the soil in this section



and in 1911 took charge of the homestead, comprising two hundred acres on section 10, Nasewaupee township, of which one hundred acres are cleared. The improvements upon the place compare favorably with those found on other farms of the locality, and he is meeting with marked success as an agriculturist. He believes in supporting local industries and is financially interested in the Nasewaupee Telephone Company, of which he is secretary, and in the Farmers Elevator Company.

Mr. Konrad was married November 25, 1913, to Miss Dorothy Henschel, of Sevastopol township, a daughter of L. F. Henschel. The republican party has a staunch supporter in Mr. Konrad and nothing affecting the general welfare is a matter of indifference to him. In religious faith he is a German Lutheran, and his integrity is above question.

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#### FRANK SCHARTNER.

Frank Schartner, who owns and operates an excellent farm of two hundred and forty acres in Sevastopol township, was born in Austria, December 17, 1862, and is a son of Joseph and Maida Schartner, the former an agriculturist by occupation. Both parents passed away in Austria and all of our subject's brothers and sisters are still residents of that country. There were twelve children in the family but only seven now survive, those besides our subject being: Ferdinand, John, Jacob, Mary, the wife of Paul Koeberbecker; Frances; and Ludvig.

Frank Schartner attended the common schools until he was fourteen years old and then began working for his father. He was also employed by others for some time and remained in Austria until he had attained his majority. On emigrating to the United States he at once made his way to Door county, Wisconsin, and worked for others for three and one-half years. At the end of that time he purchased the west half of the northwest quarter of section 16, Sevastopol township, which was then partially cleared. He brought the entire tract under cultivation and erected buildings and made other improvements, converting the place into a highly developed farm. Five years after his first purchase of land he bought the east half of the northwest quarter of section 16, and in 1911 he became the owner of the east half of the southwest quarter of section 9, thus bringing his total holdings up to two hundred and forty acres. His land is fertile and yields abundant crops and as the direct result of his own industry and careful attention to his business affairs he is now in excellent circumstances.

Mr. Schartner was married January 29, 1888, to Miss Mary Houpman, a daughter of Andrew and Anna Houpman, natives of Austria. The mother died in that country and the father subsequently came to the United States, settling in Door county, Wisconsin, in an early period in its development. He was married here to a Mrs. Suess, the widow of Matthew Suess, a pioneer of Door county. Mr. Houpman is still living and makes his home with Henry Suess, a farmer of Sevastopol township. Mr. and Mrs. Schartner have become the parents of nine children as follows: Frank, who died June 4, 1912, when twenty-three years old; Louis, who is farming with his father; Anna, the wife of Anton Geittner; Rosa, who married Joseph Kober of Menominee, Michigan; Mary, the wife of Charles

Gressel, a resident of Maplewood, Forestville township; William, who is assisting his father; Catherine, at home; and John and Adolph, who are also aiding in the operation of the homestead.

Mr. Schartner endorses the principles of the democratic party and is loyal in his support of its candidates and policies. He holds membership in the Catholic Institute church and his salient characteristics are such as to win the warm regard of those with whom he has come in close contact.

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#### SVEN LARSON.

Sven Larson, a well known farmer residing on section 33, Jacksonport township, is entitled to the credit given a self-made man, for he has gained the prosperity which he now enjoys solely through his own efforts. His birth occurred in Smoland, Sweden, March 27, 1855, and he is a son of Lars and Johanna (Larson) Johnson. There were twelve children in the family, but only our subject, who is youngest, came to the United States. The others are all deceased save Anna Marie, the widow of Peter Johnson, of Sweden. The father engaged in farming and passed away in his native country and was buried in the Hinneryd Socken cemetery, where his wife is also laid to rest.

Sven Larson attended the common schools until he was confirmed and then worked for his father and others until he was twenty-five years of age. In 1880 he came with his wife to the United States, landing at New York. He had less than a dollar in money, but a friend loaned him enough money to enable him to go to Pennsylvania, where he secured work. Within a short time he was able to repay his friend and for three and a half years he worked in the lumber woods of the Keystone state. He then came to Wisconsin in 1883 and, being pleased with conditions here, purchased the north half of the northwest quarter of section 33, Jacksonport township, from Charles Reynolds on the 12th of January, 1884. He at once erected a log house, which remained the family home during the period that he was clearing his land and bringing it under cultivation. Subsequently he added to his holdings in the southwest quarter of the southwest quarter of section 28 and the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section 33, also in Jacksonport township, so that his holdings now total a quarter section of fine land. In 1890 he replaced the log barn with a good frame one and in 1894 built a stable. Three years later he erected a residence and also a cow barn and in 1898 he further improved his place by building a machine shop. In 1904 his present fine brick residence was erected, in 1905 he built a granary and in 1910 a large up-to-date barn. Thus by degrees he has made valuable improvements upon his place and his farm today bears little resemblance to the tract of virgin timber land which came into his possession many years ago.

Mr. Larson was married in Sweden, November 7, 1879, to Miss Margarita Christina Person, whose parents remained lifelong residents of Sweden. To Mr. and Mrs. Larson were born three children: Oscar Lawrence, who is now farming near Kempster, Wisconsin; Carl Moritz, who is farming in Jacksonport township; and Anna Isabel, who is the wife of Gus Market, of Baileys Harbor. The wife and mother was called by death on the 2d of February, 1899, when her three

children were respectively twelve, ten and six years of age. She was buried in the Jacksonport township cemetery. In November, 1916, Mr. Larson was united in marriage to Mrs. Christina Leafgreen, widow of Andrew Leafgreen, of Chicago. She was also born in Sweden, and by her first marriage she had the following children: William, who died in Chicago; George, who is engaged in the tailoring business in that city; Hilmer, also of Chicago; and Signe, Edwin and Ellen, all of whom passed away in Chicago. The deceased children are buried in the same cemetery as their father.

Mr. Larson is a republican in his political belief and for one year held the office of township assessor, while for eight years he was school clerk. He is a communicant of the Lutheran church and in his business dealings as well as in the private relationships of life he has conformed his conduct to high moral standards. The early years of his residence in this county were years of unremitting labor, of inconvenience and even of hardship, but he persevered in spite of all that tended to discourage him and his faith in the ultimate prosperity of this district has been more than realized. He has gained a substantial competence and is surrounded by all the comforts and some of the luxuries of life. Moreover, his course has been such as to win for him the respect and warm regard of all who know him.

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#### JOHN SMITH.

John Smith is now living retired in Sturgeon Bay but for many years was prominently identified with general agricultural pursuits in Door county. He well deserves the rest that has come to him, for it has followed earnest, persistent and honorable labor, his prosperity being the reward of his industry. He was born in Dorchester county, in the province of Quebec, Canada, December 26, 1849, and is a son of Thomas and Mary (Wilson) Smith, who were natives of the Emerald Isle but were married in Canada. They had a family of nine children, all of whom were born in Canada, namely: Joseph, now deceased, who was one of the earliest settlers of Jacksonport township and was known as the cedar king; Abraham, who was also an early settler of Jacksonport township and passed away at the age of thirty-one or thirty-two years; Thomas, who spent his entire life in Dorchester county, Canada; one who died in infancy; Alice, who is the widow of John Bagley and makes her home in Kentucky; Edward, who spent his entire life in Canada; Jane, who is the wife of John Dillon of Dorchester county, Canada; Joshua a resident of Baileys Harbor; and John, of this review. The father of these children devoted his life to farming and also to the lumber business in Dorchester county, Quebec, and there he and his wife remained until they were called to their final rest, both being buried in Hemison cemetery.

John Smith was indebted to the pioneer schools of that locality for his educational opportunities, but he had little chance to attend school, as his services were needed upon the home farm and, moreover, the schools were not of very excellent quality at that day. He worked with his father until he reached the age of twenty-three years, when he came to Wisconsin, settling in Jacksonport township, Door county. Here he secured employment in the lumber woods and

on the docks at loading timber, spending two years at that work. He afterward returned to Canada and was there united in marriage to Miss Rebecca Smyth, a daughter of George and Eliza (Steward) Smyth, who lived near Montreal, where the father engaged in farming up to the last fourteen years of his life. He then left Dorchester county with his wife and came to Wisconsin to live with Mr. and Mrs. John Smith. Here the parents both passed away and were laid to rest in the Episcopal cemetery in Jacksonport.

It was on the 31st of August, 1876, that Mr. and Mrs. John Smith were married and about three years later he returned to Jacksonport township with his wife. Here he purchased eighty acres of land on section 15 and began transforming the tract of wild timber into cultivated fields. Later he added forty acres more and then again continued the work of farming until 1902, when he sold that property and bought a fine farm upon which he continued to reside until June, 1917. Two years before this, however, he retired from the active management of the farm, which he turned over to his sons. In 1917 he removed to Sturgeon Bay, where he and his wife occupy a nice home. As one of the leading agriculturists of the county he was widely known. His business affairs were always carefully managed and he utilized the most practical methods in the development and cultivation of the fields, while the improvements which he added to his farm made it one of the most valuable properties of Door county.

To Mr. and Mrs. Smith have been born five children: Milton, who is a resident of Saskatoon, Canada; Florence, who passed away March 16, 1916, and was buried in Bayside cemetery, and who was the wife of Jacob Herrhold, of Sturgeon Bay, by whom she had a son, Philip; Oscar, who operates the homestead farm and who married Miss Emma Volets, a daughter of John Volets, of Sturgeon Bay; and Victor and Cecil, who also reside on the home farm.

In his political views Mr. Smith is a republican. He served as road overseer in Sevastopol township but has never been an active office seeker. Both he and his wife are members of the Moravian church and are people of genuine worth, enjoying the warm regard and steadfast friendship of those with whom they have come in contact. Mr. Smith, moreover, is a self-made man and one whose record proves that success and an honored name may be won simultaneously. Starting out in life empty-handed, he has wisely utilized his time, his talents and his opportunities and gradually has forged his way to the front and by straightforward methods has gained a very substantial competence which now enables him to live retired.

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#### PHILIP A. ZETTEL.

Philip A. Zettel has gained prominence as a breeder of Percheron horses and has also been active in public affairs and in all that he has done has displayed energy, excellent judgment and the power of initiative. He was born in Sevastopol township, May 14, 1862, and is a son of Joseph and Christina Zettel, further mention of whom occurs elsewhere in this work. During his boyhood and youth



JACOB ZETTEL



HENRY ZETTEL



PHILIP A. ZETTEL



MRS. CHRISTINA AZNOE



MRS. LOUISA STROM



MRS. CATHERINE CRASS



JULIUS ZETTEL



JOSEPH ZETTEL



ALFRED ZETTEL



the winter seasons were devoted to attending the public schools, while in the summers he was employed upon the home farm, and after completing his education he gave his entire time to his father until he was twenty-four years of age. As he was the eldest in quite a large family it was incumbent upon him to assist his father in the support of the younger children. After leaving home he worked as a well driller for two and a half years and then bought one hundred and sixty acres in Sevastopol township which he sold after operating it for four years. He then removed to Sturgeon Bay and turned his attention to the teaming and draying business and also became interested in the buying and selling of horses. Since 1911 the greater part of his time and attention has been taken up by his work as a breeder of pure blooded Percheron horses. He now has three and it is generally recognized that they are the best horses of that breed in Door county. He also still buys and sells horses quite extensively and has found that business profitable.

Mr. Zettel endorses the principles of the democratic party, but at local elections usually votes independently. He has held a number of township offices, including that of supervisor of Sevastopol township, in which capacity he served for many years. He is well known fraternally as a popular member of the Royal Arcanum and the Fraternal Legion. He has two children, a son and a daughter, namely, Howard and Myrtle. In the county in which his birth occurred he has spent his entire life and has here won financial prosperity and the high regard and esteem of all who know him.

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#### ALFRED ZETTEL.

Throughout life Alfred Zettel has been identified with the farming interests of Sevastopol township, and is now the owner of a well improved and valuable farm located on the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter of section 27. He was born on his father's homestead in the same township, August 8, 1864, his parents being Joseph and Christina (Lorch) Zettel. The father was born in Switzerland and the mother was a native of Germany. In early life they came to this country and settled in Door county, being among its earliest pioneers. Here they were married and continued to reside throughout the remainder of their lives. More extended mention of the family may be found elsewhere in this work.

During his boyhood and youth Alfred Zettel attended the district schools near his home and also early acquired an excellent knowledge of agricultural pursuits while assisting his father with the labors of the farm. He remained under the parental roof until twenty-nine years of age and then located on his present place, which was given him by his father. He has made all the improvements thereon and has added to the tract by the purchase of the south half of the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of section 27, and today has a very desirable farm. He is a hard working, energetic man, and well merits the success that has come to him.

On the 10th of December, 1897, Mr. Zettel was united in marriage to Miss Anna Nauman, a daughter of August and Katherine (Vetter) Nauman, the

former a native of Germany and the latter of Manitowoc, Wisconsin. For some years her parents resided in Manitowoc county, this state, but later removed to Gardner township, Door county, and are now living in Nasewaupee township. Mr. and Mrs. Zettel are active members of the German Lutheran church and he is also identified with the Modern Woodmen of America. His political support is given to the democratic party, but he has never taken a very active part in politics aside from voting.

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### HENRY ZETTEL.

Henry Zettel, of Sturgeon Bay township, is well known throughout Door county as a successful farmer and a public-spirited citizen. He was born upon the family homestead in Sevastopol township, April 1, 1867, and is a son of Joseph and Christina (Lorch) Zettel, the former of whom was a native of Switzerland and the latter of Germany. The mother accompanied her mother to Door county when it was first being settled and the father emigrated to America and located here in his youth. He became the first fruit grower in the county, having turned his attention to that business because of his strongly marked personal liking for such work, and he developed an orchard which became famous throughout the state. He exhibited successfully at the World's Columbian Exposition held in Chicago in 1893 and on the 2d day of May, 1894, the board of lady managers conferred upon his wife, Mrs. Christina Zettel, a diploma of honorable mention in recognition of her skill in helping her husband with his horticultural work. At the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo in 1900 he received the first prize on apples and was awarded a gold medal. He continued to give careful attention to the management of his orchard until his death, which occurred upon the homestead on the 11th of March, 1904, when he was seventy-two years old. His wife survived until December 27, 1915, and was buried by his side in the Bayside cemetery.

Henry Zettel received his education in the early schools of his district but when sixteen years old put aside his textbooks and from that time until he was thirty-five years old worked with his father in the development of his orchard. At length he turned his attention to clearing and improving a forty acre tract on section 3, Sturgeon Bay township, that his father had purchased some time before, and that place remained his residence until 1910, when it was sold and Mr. Zettel purchased another twenty acres on the same section. He has brought his farm to a high state of development and his careful and systematic operation of it is evidence of his ability as an agriculturist. He is now in comfortable circumstances as the result of his industry and his continued prosperity seems assured.

On the 15th of January, 1902, Mr. Zettel was united in marriage to Miss Ida Augsburger, a daughter of Fred and Louisa (Herman) Augsburger, who were born respectively in Switzerland and in Germany but were married in Adams county, Indiana. In 1895 they removed with their family to Door county, Wisconsin, where the father passed away, and he is buried in Bayside cemetery. The mother survives and makes her home on section 3, Sturgeon Bay township. To



Mr and Mrs. Zettel have been born three children, Thelma Leona, Arthur Henry and Ruby Muriel.

Although Mr. Zettel usually supports the republican party at the polls he does not consider himself bound by party ties and upon occasion votes independently. The principles which govern his conduct are found in the teachings of the Methodist church, and all who have had dealings with him testify to his integrity and high regard for the rights of others.

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### JACOB ZETTEL.

Jacob Zettel, who follows farming with marked success on sections 31 and 26, Sevastopol township, has spent his entire life in that locality, for he was born in the same township May 27, 1876, a son of Joseph and Christina Zettel, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work. During his minority he gave his father the benefit of his labors in the operation of the home farm, and in the meantime acquired a good practical education in the local schools. During the following eight years he was employed in the shipyards at Sturgeon Bay, continuing his residence in that city until 1907, when he purchased the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section 31, Sevastopol township, and has also bought the southwest quarter of the northeast quarter of section 26. His residence is on the former tract and he is now successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits.

On the 3d of October, 1899, when twenty-three years of age, Mr. Zettel married Miss Caroline Weigand, a daughter of Vincent and Christina (Moeller) Weigand, who were born, reared and married in Germany. At an early day, however, they came to the United States and settled in Door county, Wisconsin, where the father died and was laid to rest in the Catholic Institute cemetery in Sevastopol township. Mrs. Weigand is still living and now makes her home in Sturgeon Bay. To Mr. and Mrs. Zettel were born six children, namely: Olive; Alvin and Elva, twins; Edna; Loretta; and Wilmer. The wife and mother departed this life April 29, 1915, and was buried in the Catholic cemetery on section 23, Sevastopol township. She was a faithful member of the Catholic church of Sturgeon Bay, and was a most estimable woman. Besides his farm property Mr. Zettel is still the owner of a residence in Sturgeon Bay, which he erected about two years after his marriage. He is one of the representative citizens of his community and is held in high regard by all who know him.

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### JULIUS ZETTEL.

Throughout life Julius Zettel has been actively identified with agricultural interests of Sevastopol township, and is today one of the leading farmers of his community. He was born on the 24th of May, 1880, on the homestead which his father secured from the government. His parents were Joseph and Christina (Lorch) Zettel, natives of Switzerland and Germany respectively. More extended mention of this worthy couple may be found elsewhere in this work. Our sub-

ject's paternal grandparents never left Switzerland and his maternal grandfather died in Germany, but the latter's wife came to the new world in 1855 and located in Door county, Wisconsin, being among its very earliest settlers. In early life the father also crossed the Atlantic, and took up his abode in Door county in 1855. He was the first fruit grower in this section of the state and at one time was the owner of the largest orchard in Wisconsin. At the Buffalo Exposition he took first prize and received a gold medal.

Julius Zettel spent the days of his boyhood and youth upon the home farm, and when not assisting in its labors attended school until fifteen years of age. He remained under the parental roof until he had attained his majority and was then married to Miss Jenervie Walker, a daughter of Charles B. and Elizabeth Walker, whose sketch appears on another page in this volume. To this union have been born three children, Douglas, Donald and Pearl. Mr. Zettel is now the owner of a well improved and valuable farm, comprising the west half of the northeast quarter of section 21, Sevastopol township, and the east half of the south half of the northwest quarter of section 26, the same township. He is a wide awake and progressive farmer, and the success that he has achieved is due entirely to his own efforts. In religious faith he is a Methodist and in politics a staunch republican.

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#### EMIL MILLER.

Door county has on the whole been fortunate in having in its public offices a class of men who have been loyal to its best interests and have put forth earnest effort to promote the general welfare, while at the same time they have promptly and faithfully discharged the duties which have devolved upon them. Such a record has Emil Miller made in the office of county treasurer, which he is now filling for the third term. He was born in Forestville township, this county, July 31, 1872, a son of Ferdinand and Alvina (Henke) Miller, both of whom were natives of Germany. The father was a son of Peter Miller, who brought his family from Germany in an early day. Ferdinand Miller and his wife were married in this country and both have now passed away, the former having died in 1909, while the latter passed away in 1883. He was a farmer by occupation and was identified with the early pioneer development of this section of the state.

Emil Miller acquired a public school education and was early trained to the work of the fields, soon becoming familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops. He continued to farm with his father until 1896, when, desirous of engaging in business on his own account, he purchased land in Brussels township. He still owns one hundred and twenty acres, which is devoted to general farming and dairying and from his farm property he derives a substantial annual income.

It was in 1895 that Mr. Miller was united in marriage to Miss Adeline Teich, of Kewaunee county, Wisconsin, a daughter of Gottlieb Teich. They have become parents of twelve children: Ella, Walter, Julia, Elmer, Lawrence, Rena, Edna, Oleda, Dora, Myrtle, Orville and Leora, all of whom are yet at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Miller are members of the Lutheran church, in the work of

which they take an active and helpful interest, Mr. Miller serving as treasurer of the Emanuel Lutheran congregation for sixteen years. In politics he is an earnest republican and has frequently been called upon to fill positions of honor and trust. He took the United States census for Brussels township in 1900 and again in 1910 and he has been chairman of Brussels township for the past decade. For fifteen years he was school clerk and the cause of education has found in him a stalwart champion. In 1912 he was elected to the office of county treasurer, assuming the duties of the position on the 4th of January, 1913, and in 1917 he entered upon a third term. He has made an excellent record in office, proving a most capable custodian of the public funds, the duties of his position being promptly and systematically performed.

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### JOSEPH LAMPEREUR.

Joseph Lampereur is occupying the old family homestead or the Lampereur family on which he was born and his children are of the fourth generation upon this place, which came into the possession of his grandparents in early pioneer times. His natal day was April 26, 1871, his parents being Eugene and Lucy (Delwiche) Lampereur. The father came to the United States when a small lad with his parents who settled on the farm on section 11, Union township, securing it as a tract of wild land on which not a furrow had been turned nor an improvement made. Their first home was little more than a shack, but soon this was replaced by a substantial log cabin. With characteristic energy the grandfather began to develop and improve the place and year after year continued the work of the farm until his life's labors were ended in death. Both he and his wife died upon the old homestead and the parents of Joseph Lampereur there remained until they were called to their final rest, the father dying at the comparatively early age of forty-six years, while his wife survived to the age of sixty-three years. They were both members of the Catholic church and the father was a republican in his political views. He never sought to figure prominently in public life, however, preferring to give his undivided attention to his farm work.

Joseph Lampereur was nineteen years of age at the time of his father's death. He had been educated in the district schools and had been thoroughly trained in the work of the fields, for he early took his place behind the plow and continued to aid in the farm work until crops were harvested in the late autumn. At length he came into possession of the old home place and is now the owner of eighty acres of highly improved land, on which he has erected new buildings and otherwise made many modern improvements, so that the farm today presents a very neat and attractive appearance.

On February 18, 1896, Mr. Lampereur was united in marriage to Miss Mary Ross, a daughter of Joseph and Lucy (Jacquet) Ross, who were natives of Belgium and among the early settlers of Door county. Mrs. Lampereur was born in Union township and has spent her entire life in this county. She has become the mother of four children: Lucy, Eugene, Harry and Rosie.

In politics Mr. Lampereur is a republican and he has filled the office of assessor for a number of years and of supervisor for four years. He has always been

loyal and progressive in citizenship and he feels a justifiable pride in what has been accomplished in the county. When the family first came their nearest market was Dikerville and there was but one store and a sawmill there. There were no roads and the early settlers had to blaze their way through the forests by taking a small quantity of bark from various trees, thus marking a route whereby they might retrace their steps. Ox teams were used for the farm work and every phase of pioneer life and experience was here to be met. The grain was threshed with a flail and Mr. Lampereur often made shingles by hand. He has lived to see notable changes as the work of improvement has been carried steadily forward and he is now numbered among the honored early settlers, his memory forming a connecting link between the primitive past and the progressive present.

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### HENRY SUESS.

That sound judgment, enterprise and a willingness to work constitute a sufficient foundation upon which to build success is evidenced in the life of Henry Suess, a prosperous farmer of Sevastopol township, who began his career empty-handed and has at all times relied solely upon his own resources. He was born in Austria, July 12, 1867, and is a son of Matthew and Josephine Suess. The father, who followed agricultural pursuits, passed away when our subject was but nine years old. Five years later the mother came to the United States with her children and after living in Milwaukee for two years came to Door county, Wisconsin. Here she was united in marriage to Andrew Houpmann, who is still in good health at the age of eighty-four years and makes his home with our subject. Mrs. Houpmann passed away in 1886 and is buried in the Catholic Institute cemetery. By her first marriage she had the following children: John, who is living in Washburn, Wisconsin; Henry; Louis, who resided in Duluth, Minnesota, but is now deceased; Josephine, the deceased wife of Simon Brill of Washburn, Wisconsin; Anna, the widow of Louis Pongle of Sevastopol township; and Frances, the widow of Louis Poehler of Seattle, Washington.

Henry Suess received his education in Austria and after accompanying his mother to the United States worked as a farm hand for five years. He carefully saved his money and when nineteen years old bought the north half of the southwest quarter of section 3, and the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section 3, Sevastopol township. As soon as possible he cleared the land and brought it under cultivation and as the years have passed has made many improvements thereon. He also holds title to the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section 10. He applies sound business principles to the management of his farming interests and receives a good income from his land.

On the 28th of October, 1888, Mr. Suess was united in marriage to Miss Johanna Peters, a daughter of Nicholas and Mary (Younk) Peters, who removed to Sturgeon Bay township, Door county, from Kewaunee county, Wisconsin. After farming for many years the father located in Sturgeon Bay, where he and his wife are now enjoying a period of well earned leisure. To Mr. and Mrs. Suess have been born seven children: William, who is living on section 10.

Sevastopol township; and Matt, Sidney, Henry, Louis, Edward and Rosa, all of whom are at home.

Mr. Suess supports the republican party and can be depended upon to cooperate in movements seeking the general welfare. He holds membership in the Catholic Institute church and his life is measured by high moral standards. In improving his farm he has not only gained prosperity for himself but has also aided in the agricultural development of the county.

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#### WILLIAM J. ROBINSON.

William J. Robinson, who resides on section 15, Jacksonport township, has devoted his life to farming and has found that work at once profitable and congenial. He was born in the township in which he still resides August 14, 1874, of the marriage of Joseph and Margaret (Breen) Robinson. The father was born February 20, 1833, in County Fermanagh, Ireland, the fourth in a family of ten children, whose parents were John and Jane (Smith) Robinson. In 1852 he came to America and made his way to the home of his uncle, Joseph Smith, a resident of Upper Canada. He was employed as a sawyer for six years and then went to Fulton, New York, where he joined his brother John and learned the blacksmith's trade. He then returned to Canada and for eight or ten years was in the employ of the Grand Trunk Railway Company, first as brakeman, later as baggageman and eventually as conductor. In July, 1866, however, he located in Jacksonport township, Door county, Wisconsin, and for some time conducted a jobbing business, taking out cedar timber. At that time Door county was still largely undeveloped and he aided in building the first pier at Jacksonport. At length he bought one hundred and sixty-six acres of land on section 15, Jacksonport township, and turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, which he followed during the remainder of his active life. He resided upon the homestead until his death, which occurred September 16, 1915. He was buried in the Episcopal cemetery in Jacksonport township. His wife survives and makes her home with her son, William J. It was in 1869 that Mr. Robinson was married in New York city to Miss Margaret Breen, also a native of County Fermanagh and an old schoolmate of his. They became the parents of five children, namely: Mary J., who died in infancy; George J., who is living in Jacksonport; William J.; Isabella M., deceased; and Jane E., who makes her home in Jacksonport. Mr. Robinson was a republican in politics in his young manhood, but later became an adherent of the democratic party. In religious faith he was an Episcopalian and he was highly esteemed by all who knew him.

William J. Robinson was reared upon the home farm and attended the early schools as opportunity offered until he was sixteen years old. From that time until he reached the age of thirty-four years he worked in partnership with his father, but at the end of that period he purchased the homestead, which comprises one hundred and twenty-six acres on section 15, Jacksonport township. He has since operated the place on his own account and his thorough knowledge of all phases of farming, combined with his industry and good business ability, have

enabled him to accumulate a competence. He does general farming, finding that more profitable than specializing in any one line of production.

On the 1st of November, 1911, Mr. Robinson was united in marriage to Miss Lillian Wilson, a daughter of Harry and Sarah (Smith) Wilson, who were early settlers of Jacksonport township. The mother has passed away and is buried in a cemetery in Jacksonport township, but the father survives and still makes his home upon his farm. To Mr. and Mrs. Robinson have been born three children, Kenneth, Sarah Belle and Margaret.

Mr. Robinson supports the republican party at the polls and is now serving out an unexpired term as a member of the township board of supervisors, which office he previously held for one term. He has also been school treasurer for five years and his influence has been felt as a factor in the advancement of local educational interests. Fraternally he is connected with the Mystic Workers and the principles which have governed his life are found in the teachings of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is progressive and enterprising and his farm is one of the well improved and attractive places of the township.

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#### ALFRED HANSON.

That Wisconsin is listed with the leading agricultural states of the Union is due to the efforts of men of enterprise, perseverance and progressiveness, to which class belongs Alfred Hanson, who is living on section 31, Sevastopol township. Door county claims him as a native son. He was born on Washington island, April 16, 1878, a son of Madts and Dorothy (Jacobson) Hanson, who were natives of Norway but were married in Ephraim, Wisconsin. The maternal grandfather, Anton Jacobson, was one of the first settlers in the northern part of this county and owned a large part of Rock Island. He there engaged in fishing until the later years of his life, when he purchased land on Washington island and turned his attention to general agricultural pursuits until killed upon his farm by a falling tree. The paternal grandparents of Alfred Hanson were Mr. and Mrs. Hans Hanson, who were reared and married in Norway but became pioneer settlers of Washington island and contributed to the early development of this section of the state. Following their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Madts Hanson took up their abode upon a tract of wild timber land which Mr. Hanson purchased. It was entirely undeveloped and destitute of all improvements. He built a log house and began to operate his farm with oxen. There were no roads in the district at that time, and the work of general development and improvement seemed scarcely begun. The timber had to be cleared away before the fields could be cultivated, and all methods of farming were very primitive as compared with the processes now in use. All grain was cut by hand and the farm work was of a most arduous character.

When Alfred Hanson was fourteen years of age his father took up sailing, turning over the farm work to his son. He continued to sail for four years and then returned to his farm, upon which he remained until his death in the year 1908. His widow is still living upon the old homestead property. In their family were ten children: Alfred; Emma, now the wife of Dan Kilgore

of Chicago; Thora, the wife of Charles Hagan of Washington island; Lena, the wife of Walter Chambers of Washington island; George, Jens and Maurice, all living on Washington island; Irene and Dora, who are in Chicago; and Walter, at home.

In his political views the father was a republican and gave stalwart support to that party. For a number of years he filled the position of school clerk and was ever interested in the welfare and progress of his community. His life record indicates what may be accomplished when energy and determination mark out the way. While he met many hardships in the early days and performed much hard work as the years went by, he nevertheless prospered in his undertakings and became one of the substantial agriculturists of his district.

Alfred Hanson pursued his education in the winter seasons in the pioneer schools of Door county for a brief period, continuing his studies until he reached the age of sixteen. Long before this time, however, he had become an active factor in the development and improvement of the home farm and when his father turned his attention to maritime interests Alfred Hanson took charge of the homestead, being the eldest son. He continued to cultivate the place until he had attained his majority, when he began sailing on vessels making trips between Milwaukee and Charlevoix. He was thus engaged until twenty-nine years of age and in 1912 was a mate of the lightship on Lansing Shoal. About 1907 he purchased a farm on Shore Road in Sevastopol township, two and one half miles north of Sturgeon Bay, and at once began to clear and develop this property, on which he has since resided. The improvements have all been put there by him, and the buildings stand as monuments to his progressive spirit and indefatigable energy.

On the 6th of August, 1901, Mr. Hanson was united in marriage to Miss Laura Iverson, a daughter of Alfred and Regina Iverson, who were early settlers of Door county. Mr. and Mrs. Hanson have three children, Pearl, Harold and Dorothy. The parents are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and guide their lives according to its teachings. Mr. Hanson deserves much credit for what he has accomplished. Depending entirely upon his own resources from the age of fourteen years, he has worked his way steadily upward, and indefatigable energy and honorable purpose have composed the rounds of the ladder by which he has climbed to success.

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#### HON. HENRY GRAASS.

Hon. Henry Graass, who has served with honor since 1914 on the bench of the fourteenth judicial circuit of Wisconsin, was born at Sturgeon Bay, July 17, 1875, and has been a lifelong resident of Door County. He is a son of John P. and Wilhelmina (Wagener) Graass. He had limited educational advantages in his youth and in 1893 graduated from the Sturgeon Bay high school. A number of years in his early manhood were devoted to teaching, two years being spent in the country districts near Sturgeon Bay and four years in the city schools of Sturgeon Bay, in which connection he taught the eighth grade. He was very successful in his work as a teacher but determined to devote his life to other professional ac-

tivity and entered the law department of the University of Wisconsin, which conferred upon him the degree of Bachelor of Laws upon completion of the required course in 1903. Some time previously, in 1902, he had been admitted to the bar by the state board of legal examiners of Wisconsin.

Mr. Graass returned to Sturgeon Bay and soon gained prominence in his profession, his thorough knowledge of the basic principles of law and of statute and precedent, together with his incisive reasoning and his diligence in preparing his cases, marking him as a lawyer of unusual ability. He practiced not only in all the state courts but also in the federal courts and was called to public office, serving from 1904 to 1909 as city attorney of Sturgeon Bay and from 1909 to 1914 as district attorney for Door county. His record in those capacities was in line with his achievements in private practice and in 1914 he was called to the bench of the fourteenth judicial circuit and has since served in that capacity. His career as a judge has been characterized by devotion to the spirit and intention of the law rather than to its letter and by a rare degree of detachment from all personal elements, basing his rulings and his decisions solely upon law and equity as applicable to the facts in the case.

Mr. Graass was married in Sturgeon Bay, November 25, 1903, to Miss Cora Mae Anger, a daughter of William and Anne Anger, and to this union one daughter has been born, namely, Marguerite Ann, now seven years of age.

Judge Graass is a loyal member of Elks Lodge, No. 259, and of Moose Lodge, No. 359, both of Green Bay, and is also identified with the Green Bay Rotary Club and the Green Bay Kiwanis Club. As a lawyer and judge he has fully recognized the possibilities for large public service offered in the legal profession and in his practice as well as in his work on the bench he has sought constantly to make the law in reality what it is in theory—the defense of poor and rich alike, knowing no distinctions of person or position.

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#### WILLIAM P. MILLER.

William P. Miller, whose finely improved farm in Sevastopol township is evidence of his prosperity and enterprise, was born in Sturgeon Bay township, September 7, 1882. His parents, Jacob and Regina Miller, were born in Washington county, Wisconsin, where they were reared and married. In 1880, two years after their marriage, they came to Door county and the father purchased eighty acres of timber land in Sturgeon Bay township. As soon as possible he cleared it and brought it under the plow and in the intervening years he has made many improvements upon the place. He has added one hundred and twenty acres to his holdings, which now total two hundred acres, and he derives a gratifying income from his land. The mother also survives. To them were born five children, namely: Mary, who passed away at the age of twelve years; William P.; Edward, who is living in Daggett, Michigan; and Jacob and Oscar, both of whom are on the home farm.

William P. Miller entered the public schools at the usual age and continued his education there until he was sixteen years old, when he put aside his textbooks and turned his entire attention to agricultural pursuits. He worked for his



father until 1906 and during that time carefully saved his earnings with the expectation of investing in land. In the year mentioned his purpose was carried out as he bought the south half of the southeast quarter of section 34, Sevastopol township, and took up his residence upon that tract, where he still lives. The buildings and other improvements upon the place are excellent and the fertility of the soil has been conserved by scientific cultivation.

On the 3d of June, 1908, Mr. Miller was united in marriage to Miss Minnie Griffin, a daughter of Otis and Matilda (Zander) Griffin, of Sturgeon Bay. In his political belief Mr. Miller is a republican, and his religious faith is that of the Moravian church. He gives practically his undivided attention to the management of his farm work and is rewarded by a good income from his land.

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### FRANK ALEXANDER.

Frank Alexander is the possessor of a good residence, situated in the midst of an excellent farm in Union township and he is now busily engaged in the cultivation of his fields, which he has made most productive as the result of his industry intelligently directed. He was born in Belgium on the 22d of February, 1859, and is a son of Joachim and Caroline (Destier) Alexander, who were also natives of that country, where they were reared and married. In 1871 they came to the United States with their family, settling first in Chicago, where they resided for seven years. They afterward came to Door county and Mr. Alexander purchased forty acres of land in Union township, on which he built a log cabin and a log barn. The family here began life in true pioneer style and experienced all the hardships and privations incident to settlement on the frontier. Mr. Alexander cleared his forty acres of land and also added to it the forty acre tract upon which his son Frank now resides. He is still occupying the old home place and he has reached the age of eighty-one years. His wife passed away in 1908.

Frank Alexander has from the age of eleven years been a resident of Union township. He began his education in the schools of Belgium, but after spending the first decade or more of his life in that country accompanied his parents to the new world. Here he assisted his father in the development and cultivation of the home farm and continued actively in farm work with him for ten years. He then removed to his present place and erected thereon a good brick residence. He has many substantial improvements upon his land, including large barns and outbuildings for the shelter of grain and stock. The place is divided into fields of convenient size by well kept fences and none of the accessories of the model farm of the twentieth century are lacking.

In 1880 Mr. Alexander was united in marriage to Miss Matilda Lempereur, a daughter of Joseph and Sarah (Dilligine) Lempereur, who were natives of Belgium, while Mrs. Alexander was born in Union township. To Mr. and Mrs. Alexander have been born ten children, as follows: Sarah, Eugene, Nestor, Davis, Mary, John, Emma, Eli, Louise and Matilda.

Mr. Alexander gives his political endorsement to the republican party. He has served as assessor for a number of years and also as chairman of the board

for two years. He is now clerk, which position he has filled for three years, and in this, as in other offices, he has made an excellent record for fidelity and capability. Mr. Alexander deserves much credit for what he has accomplished. After coming to the new world he attended school in Chicago in order to acquaint himself with the English language. One by one he has overcome difficulties and obstacles in his path and has worked his way steadily upward, winning for himself a creditable position among the successful farmers of Union township.

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### JOHN LEYANNA.

John Leyanna, one of the highly esteemed residents of Nasewaupee township, was born in Brown county, Wisconsin, September 10, 1857, a son of Anton and Julia Leyanna, who removed to Door county with their family in 1881. John Leyanna received his education in Brown county and resided there until 1881, when he came with his parents to Door county. He had decided upon agriculture as his life work, purchasing two hundred and forty acres in Jacksonport township, and he resided upon that place until 1910, when he removed to Institute, where he purchased a saloon. Two years later, however, he traded that property for a well improved farm of one hundred and fifty-three acres in Nasewaupee township, on which he has since resided. He is practical and progressive in his methods of farming and his well directed labors are rewarded by good crops, from the sale of which he derives a gratifying income.

Mr. Leyanna was married in 1881 to Miss Celia Londa of Brown county, a daughter of Frederick Londa, and they have become the parents of twelve children, one of whom died in infancy, the others being: Celia, who is the wife of Ed Jerard of Sawyer; Fred, who is farming near Marinette; John, who is employed on a United States tug boat; Mary, the wife of Louis Stonke of Nasewaupee township; Lucille, now Mrs. George Langly of Egg Harbor; Clara, who married William Riley of Green Bay; Hilda, the wife of William Cott of Two Rivers; and Florence, Leo, Clarence and Ethel, all of whom are at home.

Mr. Leyanna is a staunch advocate of the democratic party but has never had the time nor desire to take active part in politics. His membership is in the Corpus Christi Catholic church in Sawyer, and he contributes of his means to its support. He is of French descent and manifests in his daily life the sterling qualities of his race.

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### FREDERICK BERGER.

Frederick Berger, deceased, was a well known farmer of Sturgeon Bay township and left many friends to mourn his loss. He was born in Norway, October 6, 1826, and received a district school education in his native land. It was in 1855 that he came to this country. In 1862 he went to the defense of the Union, enlisting in Company F, Thirty-second Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, with which command he participated in many important engagements. He took part in the

battles of Shiloh and Gettysburg, went with Sherman on his march to the sea, was present at the fall of Richmond and at Appomattox when Lee surrendered. After the close of the war he returned to Wisconsin and following his marriage, which occurred July 13, 1865, turned his attention to farming, although he had previously followed the rope maker's trade. He proved very successful as an agriculturist, giving a great deal of thought to the management of the farm work. The place at first comprised one hundred and sixty acres, but he subsequently sold one hundred acres of that tract. Mr. Berger passed away January 31, 1903, and was buried in the Shiloh cemetery.

On July 13, 1865, occurred the marriage of Mr. Berger and Miss Elizabeth Rasmussen, who was born in Norway, October 13, 1846. She received her education and grew to womanhood in that country, emigrating to America in 1865. By her marriage she became the mother of seven children, namely: Thomas, who was born April 28, 1866, and died in infancy; Emil, who was born in 1868 and died August 28, 1905; Laura, now Mrs. L. Linden; Carl; Frederick; Clara, who married William Welden, of Bay View, Wisconsin; and John, who is now living in Sturgeon Bay township.

Mr. Berger was a republican in politics and served as pathmaster for several years and also as school director. He held membership in the post of the Grand Army of the Republic at Sawyer, Wisconsin, and greatly enjoyed keeping up close relations with others who had aided in putting down the rebellion. Mrs. Berger is a consistent member of the Moravian church and her many excellent qualities have gained her a high place in the esteem of all who have been brought in close contact with her.

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### JOHN G. HIRSCHBOECK, M. D.

Dr. John G. Hirschboeck, an up-to-date young physician and surgeon residing at Forestville, has already gained a good practice and holds the confidence of both the general public and his professional colleagues. He was born at Barton, Washington county, Wisconsin, April 19, 1887. The father, George Hirschboeck, was also born in Barton and received his education in its public schools. He is successfully engaged in the shoe business at that place and is highly esteemed in his community. He was married in West Bend to Miss Catherine Hartmann, who was born in Ohio.

John G. Hirschboeck was reared at home and attended high school at West Bend for three years. Later he became a student in the Milwaukee University and subsequently matriculated in the College of Medicine of Marquette University at Milwaukee, which conferred upon him the degree of M. D. in 1913. For one year he was house physician at the County Hospital and was later connected with St. Joseph's Hospital and the Good Samaritan Hospital. He was also house surgeon for the Johnson Emergency Hospital in Milwaukee, serving in that capacity under civil service appointment for sixteen months. In September, 1916, he came to Forestville, where he has since engaged in the private practice of his profession. He has demonstrated his ability in the treatment of disease and already ranks among the successful physicians and surgeons of Door county.

Dr. Hirschboeck was married in 1916, to Miss Helen Mitter, a daughter of

John and Julia (Koenig) Mitter and a native of Milwaukee, where the father, who was born in Germany, successfully engages in the meat business and is also dealing in real estate to some extent. Her mother was born in Barton, this state.

Dr. Hirschboeck belongs to the American Medical Association and thus keeps in touch with the advance that is constantly being made in his profession. He does not have the time to take an active part in public affairs. Since coming to Forestville he has made many friends, for his dominant qualities are such as invariably win respect and warm regard.

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### WILLIAM MARSHALL.

William Marshall, now living on the north point of North Bay known at the present time as Craginair, was a native of Scotland, born in the village of The Bridge-of-Dee, September 23, 1839. The Bridge of Dee is located on the beautiful banks of the River Dee in the parish of Balmaghie, Kirkeudbrightshire, Scotland. At the age of seventeen he started to learn the trade of wood forestry with his father, who was at that time wood forester on the Balmaghie estate. He followed the wood forestry from that time until he left Scotland to sail for America.

William Marshall was married in August, 1863, to Agness Campbell, who was born in the city of Castle Douglas, parish of Kelton, she being a daughter of John Campbell and Susan Kirkpatrick. She was married in the same city.

Mr. Marshall left Scotland in the spring of 1868 with his wife and three children. There is only one of the three children that was born in Scotland living, she being married to Frank Hoyt and living in Spokane, Washington. When Mr. Marshall left Scotland he sailed right for North Bay, to be under the employ of G. A. Thomson, who was at that time mayor of Racine, president of the Western Union Railroad and also owner of considerable land in Forestville, Brussels and Liberty Grove townships, Door county, part of the Liberty Grove property being located on the north point of North Bay. Fractional section 26 was then owned by a fisherman by the name of D. E. Denton. North Bay was at one time called Denton Harbor, but being the farthest bay north considered as a good harbor for vessels seeking shelter from the storms, the marine men called it North Bay. Mr. Denton later sold his property to another fisherman by the name of French. Mr. Thomson owned the lands adjoining Mr. French's and later bought out French's interests and built a large store, barn and dock and started in the lumbering business. His store at that time was the largest general store north of Sturgeon Bay. Mr. Thomson's interests at North Bay were being superintended by a party who was entirely unfamiliar with the lumber business, thus causing a heavy loss to the owner. Mr. Thomson, at that time having interests in a blast furnace at Uniontown, Pennsylvania, the cotton industry in India and a gas company in Glasgow, could not stand such a loss in the lumber business and eventually failed. Doing his best to try and pull through his loss he gave a warranty deed to a real estate man by the name of Sea, but the warranty did not help him any as a firm by the name of Richard Irvin & Company, bankers and brokers in New York, being the heaviest creditors, had a judgment against Mr. Thomson for almost half a million dollars so this cut off the deed given to Mr. Sea as the judg-

ment had been rendered before the deed was given. Mr. Sea tried in every way to get possession of North Bay property under the deed given but Mr. Marshall was holding the property against him in the interests of Richard Irvin & Company under the orders of the late John T. Fish and late Charles H. Lee, both of Racine, and Charles Vrooman, at that time of Green Bay, now of Chicago, they being the attorneys for the Irvin company. All matters were brought to a finish by Mr. Thomson's holdings being sold at the United States marshal's sale in the city of Milwaukee and bid in by the attorneys for the late Richard Irvin & Company. For twenty-four years after all those matters were settled Mr. Marshall acted as agent with power of attorney for the Richard Irvin & Company and to this day is living on the old homestead, having made that his home for many years.

During their married life there were thirteen children born to them, ten of whom are living and all married but the youngest who is living with her father, namely: Mrs. Annie F. Hoyt of Spokane, Washington; Mrs. Jean E. Anderson and Mrs. Mae B. Larson, both of Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Mrs. Agness L. Brown of Detroit, Michigan; Mrs. Florence S. Toft, of Michigan City, Indiana; and Edythe Tyhle Marshall, at Craignair farm, North Bay, Wisconsin; Andrew Phelps Marshall of Milwaukee, Wisconsin; John Campbell Marshall and William Kirkpatrick Marshall of Gladstone, Michigan; and Robert Burns Marshall of Huron, South Dakota. Mr. Marshall also has eighteen grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

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#### PATRICK HOGAN.

Among the representative farmers of Sevastopol township is Patrick Hogan, who was born in Ontario, Canada, March 17, 1868, a son of Michael and Mary (Tuhey) Hogan, who were born in Ireland but were married in Canada. The father engaged in farming in the Dominion until his son Patrick was a year and a half old, when the family removed to Door county, Wisconsin. Michael Hogan purchased the west half of the southeast quarter of section 13, Sevastopol township, and at once set about clearing the land of the heavy growth of timber which covered it. After bringing it under the plow he devoted his time to its cultivation and further development during his active life. He reached the venerable age of ninety-nine years and five months, passing away January 22, 1916, and his remains were interred in the Catholic Institute cemetery. The mother, who has now passed the eightieth milestone on life's journey, is still enjoying excellent health. They became the parents of eight children: John, deceased; Patrick; Ella, the wife of Joseph McDermott, of Rapid River, Michigan; one who died in infancy; Michael, Jr., who resides in Canada; Mary Ann, the deceased wife of Fred Hintz, of Rapid River, Michigan; one who died in infancy; and Dennis, deceased. The family are Catholics in their religious faith and the father was a democrat in his political belief. He was in comfortable circumstances at the time of his death although he began his career as a poor young man.

Patrick Hogan attended the district schools until he was sixteen years old and two years later went to Menominee, Michigan, where for ten years he was employed in a sawmill. He then returned home and aided in operating the farm for

a number of years. In 1902 he purchased the place from his father and he also now owns the east half of the southwest quarter of section 13, Sevastopol township. All his land is cleared and he derives a gratifying income from his well cultivated fields. He also raises stock to some extent and finds that likewise profitable.

In 1900 Mr. Hogan was united in marriage to Miss Mary Ann Butler, a daughter of James Butler, who was an early settler of Jacksonport township but is now deceased. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Hogan, all of whom are at home, namely, John, Daniel, Ellen Adeline, Michael, Jr., and Rosemary. The wife and mother was called to her final rest on the 4th of January, 1910, and her demise was deeply regretted by her family and her many friends. She is buried in the Catholic Institute cemetery.

Mr. Hogan endorses the principles of the democratic party but is somewhat independent, often voting for the man irrespective of his political affiliation. He is a member of the Catholic Knights of Wisconsin and of the Loyal Order of Moose. His fine farm is evidence of his industry and ability, for he has at all times depended solely upon his own resources for advancement.

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### JOHN WEGMANN.

The progressiveness and enterprise that characterize John Wegmann are indicated in the appearance of his farm which is one of the most valuable and attractive properties in the township, in fact it is generally conceded that his buildings are the best in his part of the county. His entire life has been passed in Forestville township and his birth occurred March 7, 1868. He is a son of John and Mary (Wulf) Wegmann, who were born, reared and married in Germany. The father was a sheep herder in that country but after his removal to the United States and his location at Green Bay he was employed in various lines of work. In 1869 he invested his savings in a farm near Algoma, Kewaunee county, and later bought a farm in Forestville township, Door county. He followed farming until his death and as the years passed gradually accumulated a competence. His wife survives and now makes her home with her daughter Mrs. Albert Miller of Algoma. The religious faith of the family is that of the Lutheran church.

John Wegmann was reared under the parental roof and is indebted to the public schools of Algoma for his education. He remained upon the home farm until 1893, when he bought eighty acres on section 5, Forestville township, to which he has since added a forty acre tract. The land is all in a high state of cultivation and as it is naturally fertile seldom fails to produce large crops. He uses improved methods and machinery in his work, thus increasing his efficiency and adding to the returns which he receives from his land. He has erected buildings which are superior to any others in the township and his farm is indeed a model property. He has taken a great deal of pleasure in its improvements and is justly proud of the high state of development to which he has brought it.

On May 31, 1884, Mr. Wegmann was united in marriage to Miss Anna Detmann, who was born in Forestville township and is a daughter of Joseph

and Anna (Stickman) Detmann, natives of Germany. To Mr. and Mrs. Wegmann have been born two children, namely: Henry and Ida.

Mr. Wegmann belongs to the Lutheran church and his integrity has always been above question. He has never cared to hold office but has always discharged to the full his duties as a citizen. He has earned the title of self-made man as he has at all times been dependent solely upon his own resources, and the prosperity which he now enjoys in the result of his ability and industry.

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### EXOR DE JARDINE.

The life record of Exor De Jardine is that of a self-made man, for he started out empty handed and has worked his way steadily upward, becoming the owner of valuable farm property on section 22, Jacksonport township. He was born in St. Edons, in the province of Quebec, Canada, November 1, 1856, a son of Jessant and La Rose (Francis) De Jardine, who were natives of Quebec and were of French descent, the father following the occupation of farming as a life work. In their family were thirteen children, of whom Exor was the third in order of birth, and he is the only one of the children that has become a resident of Wisconsin. The father died in Redfield, Massachusetts, near Boston, where he spent the later years of his life, and the mother is still living, making her home with her daughter, Mrs. Joseph Barette.

Exor De Jardine had but limited educational opportunities, for it was necessary that he provide for his own support by assisting his father, for whom he continued to work until he reached the age of eighteen years. He then left home and began working in the lumber woods in Canada and also in the lumber woods near Providence, Rhode Island, where he was employed until he reached the age of twenty-four. He then came to Door county, Wisconsin, and began work in the sawmills and in the lumber woods, spending a few years in that way. He purchased several small tracts of timber land from time to time, cleared these and then bought other tracts. When about thirty-five years of age he began farming and to his holdings he added until he was at one time the owner of three hundred acres of land. He has since disposed of much of this, however, and now owns about seventy-five acres, which is situated on section 22, Jacksonport township.

Mr. De Jardine was but eighteen years of age when in Canada he wedded Miss Adele Rackie, who was of French descent and whose parents always lived in the province of Quebec. There was one child of that marriage, Flora, who is now the wife of William Dorman, of Montana. Mrs. De Jardine passed away two years after her marriage and later, at the age of twenty-one years, Mr. De Jardine was again married, his second union being with Delphine Baskie, a daughter of Antoine and Amanda (Bruno) Baskie, who were natives of Montreal but have now departed this life. To the second marriage have been born thirteen children: Exor, who is living in Jacksonport township; Henry, who makes his home in North Dakota; Delphine, who is now the wife of Pat Donovan, of Jacksonport; Joseph, who is also living in North Dakota; Mary, the wife of William Ive, of Cincinnati, Idaho; Anna, the wife of James McArgle, of Baileys Harbor township; Exilda, the wife of Sam Stephenson, of Marinette, Wisconsin; Amanda, the wife of

Andrew Magnette, of Sister Bay; Eva, the wife of Arwis Hugenraw, of Sister Bay; Noah, who is now at Camp Douglas, Wisconsin, with the Wisconsin National Guard; Ethel, of Kangaroo Lake; and Edith and Leona, both at home.

The religious faith of the family is that of the Catholic church, while in political belief Mr. De Jardine is a democrat but has never been an office seeker, preferring to concentrate his thought, attention and purpose upon his business affairs. He started out empty handed, has worked his way steadily upward and his life record should serve to encourage and inspire others, showing what may be accomplished by energetic effort guided by keen intelligence.

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### THOMAS J. JOHNSON.

Thomas J. Johnson, of Jacksonport township, is entitled to honor as a veteran of the Civil war and at all times in his life has manifested a strong spirit of patriotism. He followed agricultural pursuits for many years, but is now living practically retired, leaving the arduous work of the fields to others. He was born in Cleveland, Ohio, on the 16th of February, 1839, a son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Goodgin) Johnson, natives of England. They were married in that country and a short time afterward emigrated to the United States and located in Cleveland. There the father engaged in merchandising until 1836, when he removed to Green Bay, Wisconsin, where he conducted a store for two years. He then returned to Cleveland, but two years later took up his residence in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, and engaged in general merchandising there until his death. His wife spent the later years of her life with a daughter in Manitowoc and there she passed away. To them were born thirteen children, only three of whom survive, namely: Thomas J., of this review; John, who is residing in Sevastopol township and a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work; and Jennie, the wife of Thomas Noble, of Milwaukee.

Thomas J. Johnson was reared under the parental roof and acquired his education in the pioneer schools of Sheboygan. When sixteen years of age he put aside his textbooks and for five years devoted his time to helping his father in the store. On attaining his majority, however, he went to Lake Superior and in 1861 he enlisted in Hancock, Michigan, in Company H, Third Michigan Cavalry. Later, on account of an injury to his back, he was transferred to Battery C, First Regiment of Michigan Light Artillery. He was in the thick of a great deal of hard fighting and took part in a number of important battles before he was discharged in 1863 because of injuries received at the front. He returned to Sheboygan and worked there as a painter for a number of years. He then went to Manitowoc and for six years had charge of the painting of the boats owned by the Goodrich Transportation Company. In the fall of 1871 he arrived in Jacksonport township, Door county, and for seven years was in the employ of a lumber company and was engaged in cutting cedar wood. In 1878 he purchased the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 14, Jacksonport township, and in the intervening period has transformed that tract of wild timber land to a highly cultivated and well improved farm. His well directed labors were rewarded by good crops and he so managed his affairs that he accumulated a competence.



Mr. Johnson married Miss Ann Jane Watts, a daughter of Joseph and Jane (Watson) Watts, natives of Scotland and of Welsh-English and English lineage respectively. On their removal to the United States they located in Maine, where Mr. Watts passed away. Subsequently the mother became the wife of George Edwards and removed to Manitowoc, where both she and Mr. Edwards passed away and are buried. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Johnson. Ida was born May 16, 1864, in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, and on the 27th of April, 1883, was married to Stephen Douglas, a native of Quebec, Canada, and of French descent. He died leaving a son, William, who was adopted by his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, and reared by them. He is now a resident of St. Louis, Missouri, and is editor of the Journal of Agriculture. Following the death of Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Douglas was married November 18, 1895, to Wallace Coffin, a son of David and Louise (Snively) Coffin, early settlers of Gardner township, Door county, where both passed away. Mr. and Mrs. Coffin became the parents of five children: Bernard, who was born August 29, 1896, and is assistant editor of the Journal of Agriculture of St. Louis; Anna, born September 29, 1898; Wallace, November 26, 1900; Clarence, October 17, 1902; and Samuel, December 10, 1904. All are residing at home except Bernard, the eldest. Mr. Coffin died on the 5th of January, 1913, and is buried in the Episcopal cemetery in Jacksonport township. Mrs. Coffin is still a resident of that township. Carrie, the second child born to Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, married Abraham Peronto, of Jacksonport township and later of Sturgeon Bay. She passed away and is buried in the Episcopal cemetery. Charles is engaged in farming in Jacksonport township. Joseph died when twenty-six years of age and is also interred in the Episcopal cemetery. The two other children died in infancy.

Mr. Johnson was for many years a staunch supporter of the republican party, but of late has voted independently, considering the qualifications of the candidate before his political affiliation. He has held a number of local offices, having served as township clerk for one term, as justice of the peace for several years, as clerk of the election board and as school clerk. His official duties were invariably performed with conscientious regard for the public welfare and all movements calculated to promote the general good have received his hearty support. In religious faith he is an Episcopalian and takes a keen interest in the work of the church. He has almost as many friends as acquaintances, for his salient characteristics are such as ever command respect and regard.

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#### JOSEPH KENNY.

Joseph Kenny, who is residing on section 34, Nasewaupee township, gives careful attention to his farming interests and also finds opportunity to take an active part in bringing to a successful completion projects for the good of the community. He was born February 28, 1889, a son of Edward and Mary Anne (Mullville) Kenny. The father was born January 24, 1848, in Ireland, but when only two years old was brought by his parents to the United States. In 1868 he came to Door county, Wisconsin, and located upon a farm of eighty acres, to which he has since added seventy acres. In 1879 he was married to Miss Mull-

ville, who passed away April 18, 1897, and was buried in the Forestville cemetery. She was a member of the Catholic church, of which Mr. Kenny is also a communicant. He is a democrat in politics and has served as chairman of the township committee of that party and has also held political office. For thirty years he served either as chairman or clerk, for two years he was county supervisor of assessments and for several terms he was clerk of school district No. 2. Fraternally he was connected with the Catholic Knights. To him and his wife were born the following children: Ellen, whose birth occurred July 20, 1881, and who is at home; John, who was born December 9, 1882, and is still at home; Birdie, who was born October 21, 1884, and is at home; Mary, who was born October 17, 1886, and is now the wife of Ed M. Moeller; Thomas, who died in infancy; Joseph, of this review; Edward and Edmond, both of whom died in infancy; Genevieve, who was born January 19, 1893, and is teaching in Idaho; Angelina, who was born in 1894 and died in childhood; and Grace, who was born April 11, 1897, and is now the wife of L. C. Davis, of Sturgeon Bay.

Joseph Kenny was accorded the usual educational opportunities of the farm boy, acquiring a good district school education, and during his boyhood he also received valuable training in farming. On reaching maturity he decided to follow the occupation to which he had been reared and has been very successful in the raising of both grain and stock. He keeps his work well in hand, is careful in the management of his business interests and has already gained recognition as an up-to-date and successful agriculturist.

Mr. Kenny is a democrat in politics and is interested in everything that has a bearing upon affairs of government although not an office seeker. He is a member of the Foresters. His father was one of the first to enter the fight for the railroad, realizing the great value of better means of communication with other sections, and he was also instrumental in securing the stone crushers used in making better highways.

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#### ELI LARSON.

Among the younger and more progressive farmers of Nasewaupee township is Eli Larson, who was born June 8, 1885, in Ozaukee county, Wisconsin, a son of Ole and Mathilda Larson, who in 1891 removed with their family to Manitowoc county, this state. The father passed away February 3, 1912, and is buried in the Hainesville cemetery in Door county, but the mother survives and makes her home with her son Eli. To Mr. and Mrs. Larson were born three children, namely: Walter, who resides at Madison, Wisconsin, and is state inspector of rural schools; Ophelia, the wife of John Boler, of Door county; and Eli.

The last named received his early education in the common schools of Manitowoc county and in order to fully prepare himself for his chosen life work—that of farming—he took an agricultural course at the State University at Madison. In 1910 he came to Door county and took up his residence upon his present farm of sixty acres on section 24, Nasewaupee township. He has been very successful in applying the scientific principles of agriculture which he learend in his college course and uses the most up-to-date machinery in the conduct of the farm work.

He is constantly seeking to increase his efficiency and gives careful study to the market as well as to the production of crops.

On the 28th of May, 1912, Mr. Larson was united in marriage to Miss Helga Olson, of Hainesville, who was born February 5, 1892, and is a daughter of Paul Olson. One child has been born to this union, namely, Marcella, whose natal day was July 22, 1914.

Mr. Larson keeps well informed as to the questions and issues of the day and is convinced of the wisdom of the principles of the republican party, whose candidates he supports at the polls. He is now clerk of school district No. 3 and has worked steadily and effectively for the advancement of the educational interests of the district. He is a communicant of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Sawyer, and his influence is always found on the side of right and justice.

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### JOSEPH J. HOSLETT.

Joseph J. Hoslett, a member of the firm of Peterson & Hoslett, prominent general merchants of Sawyer, was born in Casco, Wisconsin, January 21, 1867, a son of John B. and Mary (Madosh) Hoslett, who in the '50s emigrated to the United States from Belgium and settled in Casco, Kewaunee county. In 1865 they removed to Door county and took up their residence on a farm in Clay Banks township, where they are still living.

Joseph J. Hoslett received his education in the country schools of Clay Banks township and in the normal school at Valparaiso, Indiana, where he spent two winters as a student in the commercial department. For fourteen years he was connected with the agricultural implement business and was employed by Noble Brothers and later was with The J. C. Dana Company. In 1901 he bought out E. N. Anderson's share in the mercantile business that the latter had conducted with H. L. Peterson and the firm of Peterson and Hoslett was formed. The partners have been very successful in the management of their store and carry a large and well chosen stock of general merchandise. The reputation for high quality goods, reasonable prices and fair dealing that the firm enjoys has been built up through years of close adherence to the highest standards of merchandising and is fully deserved.

Mr. Hoslett was married January 1, 1893, at Sawyer, to Miss Hansina A. Anderson, a daughter of Erik N. and Marie Anderson. Her maternal grandparents came to the United States from Norway in 1843 and located in Chicago, Illinois, whence in 1847 they removed to Manitowoc, which was then a mere frontier trading point. Her father came to the United States from Norway in 1855 and took up his residence in Manitowoc, where the family resided until 1880, when they came to Door county. To Mr. and Mrs. Hoslett have been born the following children: Marie A., who is teaching music at Scandinavia Academy at Scandinavia, Wisconsin; Emil J., who is assisting his father in the store and who resides at home; Eunice M. and Sherman A., both of whom are attending the public schools of Sawyer; and Norman W., who died July 6, 1910, at the age of four and a half years.

Mr. Hoslett is a staunch republican and has been called to office, having served

as alderman for several years, as supervisor for a considerable period and as chairman of the county board for some time, which position he is now filling. He is also a member of the executive committee of the county council of defense. Further evidence of his interest in the general welfare is found in the fact that he is a member of the Sturgeon Bay Commercial Club and gives his hearty support to the various projects of that organization. In religious faith he is a Lutheran. Sawyer has profited from his enterprise and good judgment along a number of lines of activity and he is acknowledged to be one of its leading citizens.

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#### HENRY IMMEL.

Henry Immel, a prosperous and highly esteemed farmer residing on section 21, Nasewaupee township, was born at Grand Rapids, Wisconsin, April 21, 1863, a son of Joseph Immel, a native of the Rhine Province, Prussia. In 1866 his parents removed with their family to Algoma, Wisconsin, and eleven years later took up their residence in Forestville township, Door county, where the father purchased a farm.

Henry Immel was educated in the common schools of Wisconsin and remained at home until he was twenty-three years old, during the last part of that period devoting his entire attention to helping his father. On beginning his independent career he went to the Michigan lumber camps, where he was employed for twenty years, but in 1908 he returned to Door county and purchased land in Brussels township. In 1913 he sold that place and took up his residence upon a fine farm of one hundred and twenty acres on section 21, Nasewaupee township. He has since remained there and takes justifiable pride in keeping everything about the place in excellent condition. He derives a gratifying income from his land and is in comfortable circumstances.

On May 25, 1897, Mr. Immel was united in marriage to Miss Laura Gerlock, of Nasewaupee township, who was born in Ozaukee county, Wisconsin, in 1875. He votes for the best man without regard to party considerations and is interested in all the questions and issues of the day. He belongs to the Catholic church at Forestville and his wife is a communicant of the German Lutheran church. He concentrates his energies upon the operation of his farm and ranks among the prosperous agriculturists of his locality.

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#### JOHN SCHUSTER.

John Schuster, living on section 30, Clay Banks township, where he is successfully engaged in general farming, was born May 12, 1859, in Austria, and came to the new world with his parents, Mathew and Kate Schuster, when a little lad of eight years. They sailed from Bremen to Quebec, Canada, and thence went to Manitowoc, Wisconsin, where they resided for four years, the father being employed in various ways during that period. In 1871 he came with his family to

Door county and purchased forty acres of wild land, which he at once began to clear and develop, his labors resulting in transforming his property into productive fields, constituting one of the excellent farms of the community. He was actively and successfully engaged in general agricultural pursuits until his demise, which occurred October 1, 1892, when he was laid to rest in Algoma cemetery. His widow survived him until May 9, 1907, when she, too, was called to the home beyond. In their family were six children: John, of this review; Kate, the wife of Lewis Machia, of Michigan; Agnes, the wife of Fred Fellner, living in Sevastopol township; Frances, the wife of John Lipsky, of Chicago; Thomas; and James, whose home is in Oakland, California.

John Schuster spent his youthful days upon his father's farm and worked for his father during that period, spending the winter months, however, at logging. His youth was a period of earnest and unremitting toil but he gained the valuable experience which enabled him to carefully and wisely direct the farm when it came into his possession. He took over its management in 1899 and since that time has extended its boundaries by the purchase of an additional forty acres, so that he has today a valuable place of eighty acres, which he carefully and systematically cultivates according to modern scientific methods of farming, his labors producing excellent results in good crops.

On the 31st of October, 1895, Mr. Schuster was united in marriage to Miss Pazdernick, a daughter of John and Mary Pazdernick, of Clay Banks township, and they have five children: Emily, Charles, Francis, John and George.

Mr. Schuster is a democrat in his political views, having supported the party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. His religious faith is that of the Catholic church, his membership being in Algoma. His thought and attention, however, are principally given to his farm and his carefully directed labors have gained him substantial and well merited success, so that he is now the owner of a valuable property.

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#### GEORGE L. WIESNER.

George L. Wiesner, a native son of Nasewaupée township, is now the owner of an excellent farm there and is meeting with gratifying success as a dairyman. He was born May 8, 1880, and is a son of George and Annie Wiesner. The father was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and in 1880 he became a resident of Door county, for many years following agricultural pursuits in Nasewaupée township. His ability and force of character led to his election to public office, and he served as assessor and as supervisor for many years and was also clerk of the school district.

George L. Wiesner received a common school education and through assisting his father in the operation of the home farm became thoroughly familiar with practical methods of agriculture. In 1905 he began farming on his own account on eighty acres and has since made many improvements on the place. The buildings are substantial and are well designed for the care of his cattle and for the shelter of his grain, the greater part of which he uses as feed. He concentrates his attention upon dairying and has built up a fine herd of Holstein

cattle. He takes great pains to safeguard the purity of the milk and is thoroughly up-to-date in his methods. For three years he was secretary of the local telephone company and is now serving as its president.

In 1905 occurred the marriage of Mr. Wiesner to Miss Amelia Olson, and they have become the parents of six children, namely: Earl, Harold, Lloyd, Darwin, Pearl and Oliver.

Mr. Wiesner's political views accord with the principles of the republican party, and he casts his ballot in support of its candidates. For seven years he was clerk of school district No. 1, and his record in that capacity was highly creditable alike to his ability and his public spirit. He belongs to the German Lutheran church, and the worth of his character is indicated in the fact that those who have been intimately acquainted with him since boyhood are his staunchest friends.

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#### ALBERT ZETTEL.

A valuable farm of two hundred acres, upon which are seen splendid improvements, is the property of Albert Zettel, of Egg Harbor township, and pays annual tribute to the care and labor which he bestows upon it. He was born in Switzerland, January 3, 1842, a son of Joseph and Mary (Rasley) Zettel, both of whom were natives of the land of the Alps, where the father engaged in the hotel business and farming, never coming to the new world. He died about 1857 but for a decade survived his wife, who passed away about 1847.

Albert Zettel was reared and educated in his native country and there pursued his education in the public schools. The tales which reached him concerning the opportunities of the new world led him to try his fortune on this side of the Atlantic. In 1861, when nineteen years of age, he bade adieu to his friends and his native country and came to the new world, making his way to Door county, Wisconsin, where he joined his brother. For seven years thereafter he worked as a farm hand and during that period carefully saved his earnings until he had a sum sufficient to enable him to purchase property. At that time he became owner of a farm in Sevastopol township, which he improved and cultivated for six years but at length lost through some operations in lumber. Again he worked as a farm hand for a time and once more saved his earnings to enable him to purchase land. This time he invested in property in Sevastopol township and continued to operate and improve that place for a few years, after which he sold out and removed to Egg Harbor township, buying seventy-five acres on section 36. He at once began to develop the fields and as his financial resources increased he kept adding to his property from time to time, until he now owns two hundred acres, constituting one of the valuable and highly improved farms of the district. He has a thoroughly modern and attractive two story brick residence, with large and substantial outbuildings for the shelter of grain and cattle. One hundred and twenty acres of his land is in Egg Harbor township and the remainder is across the road in Sevastopol township. For twenty-six years he has lived upon this place, continuously cultivating and developing it, and as a result of his labors his fields are now very productive. He also



ALBERT ZETTEL AND FAMILY





raises high grade stock and milks about twenty-two cows, making dairying an important feature of his business. In the management of his business interests he displays sound judgment and keen discrimination and is therefore winning success.

On the 21st of April, 1870, Mr. Zettel was united in marriage to Miss Carolina Wolskey, a daughter of Samuel Wolskey, a native of Prussia, in which country Mrs. Zettel was also born. Her parents never came to the new world. By her marriage Mrs. Zettel has had five children: Ernest, who is farming with his father; Rudolph, at home; Augusta, the wife of R. Wilkie of Sevastopol township; Louisa, the wife of Charles Henschel, who follows farming in Sevastopol township; and Katie, the wife of Fred Martens, a resident farmer of Egg Harbor township.

The religious faith of the family is that of the Catholic church and the political belief of Mr. Zettel is that of the democratic party. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to come to the new world, for here he found the opportunities which he sought and in their utilization he has steadily advanced and is today one of the substantial and valued residents of Egg Harbor township, holding two hundred acres of rich and arable land, his farm being the evidence of his life of well directed energy and thrift.

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#### GEORGE M. STRAHAN.

George M. Strahan, a representative farmer of Sevastopol township, was born in Manistee, Michigan, November 15, 1875, and is a son of Louis and Johanna Elizabeth (Quinn) Strahan. The father was a native of Rochester, New York, and from the age of fourteen until twenty-five followed the sea, shipping on vessels engaged in the eastern coastwise trade and also on those trading with foreign countries. Later he became foreman for a lumber company operating in western Michigan near Manistee and was married there to Johanna Elizabeth Quinn, a daughter of Matthew and Alice Quinn, natives of Ireland. After his marriage Mr. Strahan bought a boat, which, however, was wrecked on its initial trip at Stony Creek, Wisconsin. In 1880 he came to Door county and bought forty acres of timber land in Sevastopol township, which he cleared and improved, devoting his time to its operation thereafter until his death on the 11th of June, 1908, when he was almost seventy-two years of age. He had added to his first tract another forty acres and derived a good income from his land. His wife continued to live on the farm until 1913, when she built a house near the institute and has since resided there. They were the parents of eleven children: Thomas A., who is living in Sevastopol township; Louis F., who lives in Escanaba, Michigan, and is captain of the I. W. Stephenson; Margaret, the wife of Maurice O'Hearn, of Sturgeon Bay; George M., a resident of Sevastopol township; Mary, the wife of Ernest Delchambre, of Sevastopol township; Alice, who resides with her mother; William, who is a sailor and is employed on the Georgia, of the Goodrich line; Bernard, of Sevastopol township; Frank E., who died when twenty-one years old; John, a resident of Michigan; and Joseph, of Racine, Wisconsin. The religious faith of the family is that of the Catholic church, and the

father was a staunch democrat in politics. He was keenly interested in the public schools and circulated the petition that resulted in the establishment of the first school in district No. 6.

George M. Strahan received the usual education of the farm boy of that period and when sixteen years old left school and for seven years gave his father the benefit of his labor. For two years he worked as a farm hand and then purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land on the north half of section 1, Sevastopol township. He brought the greater part of that tract under cultivation, cleared it of timber, erected suitable buildings and made other improvements thereon, developing in the course of time a fine farm. He operated that place until the 12th of April, 1911, when he sold it and bought the east half of the northeast quarter of section 24, the same township. He has since resided there and has invested considerable money in new improvements and the place now compares favorably with other farms in the locality. His work is carefully managed and he derives a good income from the sale of his grain and stock.

Mr. Strahan was married October 4, 1905, to Miss Louise Nuesse, a daughter of Joseph and Teresa Nuesse, who were among the early settlers of Sevastopol township. The mother has passed away and is buried in the Catholic cemetery but the father survives. Mr. and Mrs. Strahan have two daughters, Loretta and Leola.

Mr. Strahan is independent in politics, believing that the personal qualities of a candidate are of far greater importance than his political belief. He is a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters, which indicates his religious faith, and in all of his dealings with his fellowmen strives to conform his conduct to high moral standards. Since starting out on his own account he has been dependent solely upon his own resources for advancement, and the prosperity which he now enjoys is further evidence of his enterprise and business ability.

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#### PETER LEIST.

Peter Leist, who is farming on section 13, Sevastopol township, has met with gratifying success in that connection and has never regretted his choice of an occupation. He was born in Sinesfelt, Germany, April 18, 1877, a son of Ernest and Lena (Orth) Leist, who removed to the United States with their children when their son Peter was but three years old. After living for about four years in Milwaukee they went to Kewaunee county, settling near Algoma, where the father purchased a tract of timber land, which he cleared and improved. He farmed that place until 1912, when he sold it and came to Door county, taking up his home with his son Peter. The mother died in Kewaunee county and is buried in the Algoma cemetery. Eight children were born to them while they were residing in Germany and one after their emigration to the United States. Bertha and Kate died in Kewaunee county, Wisconsin, at the ages respectively of eighteen and seventeen years, and Joseph passed away in Door county when thirty-seven years old. The three who still survive are: Anna, now the wife of Frank Dau, of Milwaukee; Peter; and Lena, who married William Cory, of Powers, Michigan.

Peter Leist received his education in the schools of Wisconsin and was reared

under the parental roof. He completed his education when seventeen years old and then began working for others, so continuing until 1912. For some time he had been employed in Sturgeon Bay either in dredging, in a stone quarry or in shipyard work. In 1912, however, he invested his savings in the east half of the southeast quarter of section 13, Sevastopol township, and he has since put new improvements upon the place. His success has been based upon the sound foundation of industry, thrift and careful management of his work.

Mr. Leist was married April 17, 1900, to Miss Julia Urbanek, a daughter of John and Julia Urbanek, of Casco, Kewaunee county. The three children of Mr. and Mrs. Leist are Eli, Esther and Ernest.

Mr. Leist is a staunch supporter of the democratic party and keeps well informed as to questions of public policy that come before the voters for settlement. He is a communicant of the Roman Catholic church and takes much interest in the furtherance of its work. By far the greater part of his time and energy is given to the operation of his farm, which is one of the valuable properties of the township, and in bringing it to a high state of development he has not only furthered his own success but has also aided in advancing the agricultural interests of his locality.

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#### FRED BERGER.

Fred Berger, who owns a valuable tract of land in Jacksonport township, is engaged in general farming and also in growing cherries for the market and has prospered in both branches of his business. He was born in Chicago, March 16, 1866, and is a son of John and Clara (Henish) Berger, who were born and reared in Germany. A short time after their marriage, which was celebrated in that country, they came to the United States and located in Chicago, where the father was employed until 1886, when he removed with his family to Jacksonport township, Door county. He purchased the west half of the northeast quarter of section 11, which was practically all timber land. He cleared his fields and brought them under cultivation as soon as possible and engaged in farming until 1894, when he removed to Wausau, Wisconsin, where he lived retired for several years. At length he removed to Beloit, where he made his home with his son Henry and where his wife passed away. Not long after her demise he, too, was called by death while visiting a daughter at Wausau. Both he and his wife were buried in Beloit. They were the parents of twelve children, namely: William, a resident of Wausau; Mary, who is the wife of a Mr. Smart, of Wausau; Henry, a resident of Detroit, Michigan; Louise, the wife of William Mauney, of Wausau; Ella; Mrs. Amelia Barnhart, of Wausau; Fred; Charles, of Sturgeon Bay; Ed; Robert, residing near Milwaukee; Emma, the wife of Simon Shamberger, of Wausau; and Benjamin, who was drowned at the age of fifteen and was buried in Wausau.

Fred Berger spent a great deal of time in his boyhood and youth in helping his father with the farm work but had the opportunity of attending school during the winter months until he was sixteen years old. From that time until he attained his majority his time was given up altogether to farm work and when he was twenty-one years old he began hauling timber. Later he took charge of the home

farm, which he still cultivates, and he has replaced the log buildings which his father erected thereon in pioneer times with modern frame ones and has otherwise brought the farm to a higher state of development. He has planted ten acres of the place to cherry trees and his orchard yields a gratifying profit. In addition to the homestead he owns the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter of section 11, the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 12, the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter of section 1 and the northeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section 34, Jacksonport township, and he ranks among the substantial men of the county.

Mr. Berger was married August 15, 1894, to Miss Nellie Lyman, a daughter of Thomas and Videlia (Gilbert) Lyman, who were natives of New York state, where they were married. They became early settlers of Egg Harbor, Door county, and there the father passed away and is buried, but the mother is residing at Green Bay. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Berger, namely: Fred, Shirley, Ruth and Clara, all of whom are at home.

Mr. Berger is a republican in politics but has confined his participation in public affairs mainly to the exercise of his right of franchise. He was, however, for a number of years school director and has always been deeply concerned for the educational advancement of his community. He belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church and can always be depended upon to aid movements calculated to promote the general welfare. His life has been one of well directed labor and the prosperity which he now enjoys is the direct result of his industry, good management and enterprise.

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#### OTTO OLDENBURG.

Otto Oldenburg, an energetic and prosperous farmer of Nasewaupee township, was born at Green Bay, Wisconsin, January 20, 1877. His father, August Oldenburg, removed to Nasewaupee township when our subject was but three years old and there homesteaded the land now owned by the subject of this review. The father passed away January 30, 1896, and is buried in the Shoemaker cemetery, but the mother survives and makes her home with our subject. The other son, Henry, is also a resident of Nasewaupee township.

Otto Oldenburg obtained his education in the district schools and received his agricultural training under the direction of his father. He now owns the homestead on section 20, Nasewaupee township, which comprises eighty acres, and an additional forty acres. He is thoroughly familiar with the methods of agriculture best suited to this section and seldom fails to harvest large crops. He also finds stock raising profitable and is in very comfortable financial circumstances.

Mr. Oldenburg was married in 1900 to Miss Carrie Brada, of Nasewaupee township, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Brada, residents of Milwaukee. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Oldenburg, namely: Elsie, whose birth occurred April 10, 1901; Lillie, born August 9, 1903; and Clarence, born March 10, 1906.

Mr. Oldenburg is a republican and supports that party at the polls but has not otherwise been active in politics. He and his family belong to the German

Methodist church, whose house of worship his father aided in building. He has thoroughly identified his interests with those of the county, in which he has lived during practically his entire life, and his friends are almost equal in number to his acquaintances.

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### HUGH COLLINS.

Hugh Collins, a well known representative of agricultural interests of Jacksonport township, was born in Pennsylvania, December 27, 1861, and is a son of Michael and Bridget (McDermott) Collins, natives of County Louth, Ireland. A short time after their marriage they emigrated to the United States and for a few years the father worked in Pennsylvania. He then removed with his family to New Jersey. He died in 1875, and later in that year the mother came with her children to Door county, Wisconsin, and bought the north half of the northeast quarter of section 2, Jacksonport township, on which she erected a log shanty. That tract of land, like practically the whole county, was then covered with a dense forest and the first step in the development of the farm was to clear the timber. Mr. Collins of this review brought the land under cultivation and operated it for his mother until her death in 1885. She is buried in the Catholic cemetery in Baileys Harbor, and the father is interred in a cemetery in Pennsylvania. To them were born nine children: Margaret, who is the wife of Owen Cassidy, of Egg Harbor; Mary, who married Robert Carney, of Gary, Indiana; Owen, a resident of Chicago; Peter, who died in infancy; Hugh; Elizabeth, the wife of Tim Curry, of Sturgeon Bay; Kate, now Mrs. Joseph Dodd, of Racine; and two who died in infancy.

Hugh Collins received his education in the public schools of Pennsylvania, as after the removal of the family to Door county he had no time to attend school. He devoted all his energies to clearing his mother's land and caring for the crops which were planted as soon as the fields were under cultivation and as the years passed he made the farm a highly developed property. At his mother's death he received title to the place and has since erected good frame buildings. In common with other pioneers, the family resided for many years in a log house and the other farm buildings were also made of logs. He has invested his capital in other land and now holds title to the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of section 1, Jacksonport township.

Mr. Collins was married May 20, 1889, to Miss Mary Carmody, a daughter of Thomas and Eliza Carmody, who were among the first settlers of Egg Harbor. The mother is deceased and is buried in the Catholic cemetery in Egg Harbor, but the father is living and is now residing at the Soldiers Home at Waupaca, Wisconsin. To Mr. and Mrs. Collins have been born nine children, namely: Louis, who is in the United States navy; Edmund, of Racine; Myrtle, at home; John, who is a sailor on the William Edinbourn, a boat plying on the Great Lakes; and Lawrence, Percy, Adeline, Hugh and Charles, all at home.

Mr. Collins recognizes fully the duties of citizenship and can always be depended upon to further public progress but has never taken an active part in politics nor sought office. He holds membership in the Roman Catholic church

and contributes to the support of its work. For more than four decades he has been a resident of Door county and his labors have been a factor in the development that has changed a heavily timbered region into a highly developed and prosperous farming section.

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#### FRED J. KRUEGER.

Fred J. Krueger, a well known farmer of Sturgeon Bay township, passed away May 16, 1914, and his loss was keenly felt not only by his close friends but by the entire community as well. He was a native of this state as he was born in Kewaunee county, December 7, 1859. He received his education in Sturgeon Bay and was also early trained in farm work. He made agricultural pursuits his life occupation and became the owner of land which had belonged to his father, Frederick Krueger. He was energetic and industrious and in the operation of his farm he followed improved methods, thus facilitating the work and increasing the yield of his fields.

Mr. Krueger was married in Door county, May 3, 1891, to Miss Adeline Stieve, who was born in Germany, November 23, 1866, and was there educated. When twenty years old she came to America and made her way to Appleton, Wisconsin. As she was indebted to an uncle she went to work in a paper mill in Appleton in order to discharge her indebtedness. She did this and also sent money to pay her mother's way to Appleton. The latter, who was born June 18, 1837, is still living. To Mr. and Mrs. Krueger were born three children: Marvin, whose birth occurred January 19, 1893; Gladys, born September 21, 1895; and Clara, born July 15, 1900. All the children are yet at home.

Mr. Krueger was an adherent of the republican party and served a number of times as election clerk but was not an office seeker. He preferred to concentrate his energy upon the development of his one hundred acre farm, which when it came into his possession was covered with a dense growth of timber. At the time of his death, however, it was under cultivation and was improved with good buildings, its fine appearance being proof of his industry and good management. His death occurred on the 16th of May, 1914, and he was buried in the Shoemaker cemetery. His life was guided by his religious faith and he was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mrs. Krueger still lives upon the home farm and is highly esteemed in her community.

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#### JOHN F. WERKHEISER.

John F. Werkheiser, who is successfully engaged in farming on section 4, Sevastopol township, was born in Barton township, Washington county, Wisconsin, on the 16th of February, 1866, a son of John and Minnie (Beck) Werkheiser, natives of Germany, who, however, were married in Washington county, Wisconsin. The father engaged in farming there for some time but later followed the cabinet maker's trade. In 1878 he removed to Door county and again turned

his attention to agricultural pursuits, purchasing forty acres in Sturgeon Bay township. This was wild land when it came into his possession but he transformed it into a highly cultivated and well improved farm and devoted his time to its operation until his death. He passed away in 1896 and was survived by his wife until 1901. Both are buried in the Bayside cemetery. He was a staunch republican in politics and worked effectively for the success of his party. In religious faith he was a Lutheran. To him and his wife were born four children: Pauline, who is now the wife of John Meyer, of Sevastopol township; John F.; Louis, also a resident of Sevastopol township; and Henry, living in Arnold Michigan.

John F. Werkheiser had the opportunity of attending school only until he was twelve years old, as from that time until he was twenty-five he gave his father the benefit of his labor. On beginning his independent career he purchased the southeast quarter of section 4, Sevastopol township, which in the intervening years he has transformed from a tract of timber land to a cultivated and well improved farm. He raises both grain and stock and his carefully directed labors are rewarded by a good income.

Mr. Werkheiser was married November 15, 1893, to Miss Mary Catherine Roder, a daughter of John and Mary Roder, natives of Switzerland and early settlers of Sevastopol township. The father has passed away and is buried in the Bayside cemetery but the mother survives and still resides on the home farm. To Mr. and Mrs. Werkheiser have been born eight children: Minnie, at home; Florence, who is the wife of Richard Ash, of Sevastopol township; and Delia, Fred, Caroline, Henrietta, Arthur and Woodrow, all at home.

Mr. Werkheiser usually supports the republican party where national issues are at stake but on occasion votes independently, believing the qualifications of the candidate to be of supreme importance. He is keenly interested in all questions and issues of the day but has never been an office seeker, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his farm work. He is a communicant of the German Lutheran church, and his integrity and uprightness of life have gained him the esteem of all who know him.

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#### FRANK MAY.

Frank May now owns and operates the farm in Nasewaupee township upon which his birth occurred and is meeting with gratifying success in the management of his affairs. He was born January 3, 1895, a son of John and Marie May, the former of whom was born in Portage county, Ohio, January 28, 1854, of German ancestry. He accompanied his parents on their removal to West Bend, Wisconsin, and in 1874 came to Door county, three years after the Peshtigo timber fire. He located on eighty acres of burned over land and had to cut the brush and dig out the stumps before the land could be brought under cultivation and there were many other difficulties to be overcome as this was then practically a frontier district. He succeeded, however, through hard work and good management and at the time of his death was the owner of six hundred acres of fertile land. In addition to his farming he ran a threshing outfit for

many years, having turned his attention to that business when only sixteen years of age. He was a member of the school board for a long period and held the office of supervisor for two years. He was a communicant of the Corpus Christi Catholic church and also belonged to the Catholic Knights. His death occurred on the 21st of April, 1908, and he is buried in the Catholic cemetery in Sevastopol township. He married Miss Marie Spanheimer, of West Bend, Wisconsin, and to them were born the following children: John A.; Mary, who is the wife of John Haen, of Sturgeon Bay; Anna, who married William Eickelburg, of Brussels; Catherine, now Mrs. Frank Soloman; Peter, at home; Louise, the wife of Frank Sacotte, of Chicago; and Joseph, William and Frank, all of whom are farming in Nasewaupee township.

Frank May entered the public schools at the usual age and continued his studies therein until he had acquired a good common school education. He later attended business colleges at Green Bay and Milwaukee for two years. He was reared to agricultural pursuits and now holds title to the home farm, an excellent tract of one hundred and sixty acres on section 7, Nasewaupee township. He keeps everything about the place in excellent condition, uses up-to-date methods to conserve the fertility of the soil and watches the market carefully so as to secure the best prices. In all that he does he manifests a progressive spirit and sound judgment and his continued success seems assured.

Mr. May gives his political support to the republican party but has never taken an active part in politics, preferring to concentrate his energies upon the operation of his farm. He has a wide acquaintance in Door county, where his entire life has been passed, and his genuine worth is universally acknowledged.

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### JOHN JOHNSON.

For more than three decades John Johnson has resided upon his excellent farm on section 2, Sevastopol township, and he has gained recognition as a progressive and highly successful agriculturist. He was born in Cleveland, Ohio, October 7, 1842, a son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Goodgin) Johnson, who were natives of England. A short time after their marriage they came to the United States, where all of their thirteen children were born. Only three, however, now survive, namely: Thomas J., a resident of Jacksonport township, Door county; John; and Jennie, who is the wife of James Noble, of Milwaukee. For several years the father engaged in merchandising in Cleveland, Ohio, but when his son John was six years old he removed to Sheboygan, Wisconsin, where he conducted a store until his death. On first coming to this country he had been stationed at Green Bay, Wisconsin, as a fur trader and then removed to Sheboygan, where he traded extensively with the Indians. His store was one of the first established in Sheboygan and he was one of the leaders in the early business life of that place. He passed away in 1862 and was survived by his wife until 1878, she spending her later years with a daughter at Manitowoc. She is buried, however, by the side of her husband in Sheboygan.

John Johnson received a good education for his day, attending school until he was eighteen years old. During the next five years he was tally clerk on the pier



at Sheboygan and at the end of that time went to Chicago, where he was employed in a shipyard for two years. He then took up his residence upon a farm near Manitowoc, which he operated for two years. On leaving that place he came to Door county and for three years was engaged in cutting cedar timber in Jacksonport township. He subsequently went to Sturgeon Bay and built the Arc, the first steam ferry boat constructed there. He put it into service between that place and Sawyer, acting as its engineer. He owned the boat in partnership with Robert Noble until 1886, and they were also the owners of a second and larger boat, the Robert Noble, which was built under their direct supervision and also ran between Sturgeon Bay and Sawyer. The partners also conducted a farm implement store at Sawyer until 1886. Mr. Johnson then disposed of his half interest in both the ferry and the implement business to George Bassford and invested his capital in the south half of the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 2, Sevastopol township. This one hundred and twenty acre tract was then covered with a dense growth of timber and it was some time before it could be put under cultivation. As the years have passed he has made excellent improvements upon the place, which is now one of the highly developed farms of the township. He engages in general farming and derives a good profit from his labors.

Mr. Johnson was united in marriage March 12, 1868, to Miss Susanna Noble, a daughter of William and Jane (McCoy) Noble, who were natives respectively of Scotland and Ireland but were married in New York state, where they resided until 1856. In that year they removed with their family to Manitowoc, Wisconsin, where the father engaged in farming until his death. Both are deceased and are buried in the cemetery at Manitowoc. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have five children, namely: Jennie, who married Ed W. Washburn, of Sturgeon Bay; Susan, the wife of Dennis Broman, of Sevastopol township; Cora, who married Mell Austin, of Hettinger county, North Dakota; William, who is assisting his father and who has purchased part of the homestead; and Edith, now Mrs. William O'Hern, of Egg Harbor. The son William married Josephine Finnegan, whose parents were early settlers of Sevastopol township but are now deceased and are buried in the Catholic Institute cemetery. Mr. and Mrs. William Johnson have an adopted son, Sanford.

Mr. Johnson cast his first presidential ballot for Abraham Lincoln and still supports the republican party as a rule when national issues are at stake but often votes independently at local elections. He has made all that he has and the fact that he is now in more than comfortable circumstances is evident of his industry and good judgment.

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#### CHRIST LEIMBACH.

Christ Leimbach is the owner of one of the well improved farms of Jacksonport township, his place being situated on section 5. He was born in Germany, July 27, 1871, a son of John and Katherina (Kirchner) Leimbach. The father was a highway commissioner in his native country. The family numbered seven children, all of whom have passed away with the exception of the subject of this review, who is the youngest. Four of the number—August, Kaspar, Eliza and

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Karl—all died in Germany, while two passed away in the United States, these being Kaspar Adam, who died in Jacksonport township, and Katherina, who was the wife of Kaspar Herbst, of Jacksonport township, and was buried in the Lutheran cemetery. The parents came to the United States when their son Christ was nineteen years of age and established their home in Jacksonport township, Door county, where the father purchased eighty acres of wild timber land which he cleared and improved, remaining thereon up to the time of his death, which occurred April 10, 1904. His widow survived him for a number of years and passed away January 28, 1913. They were both laid to rest in the Lutheran cemetery, having been loyal and faithful members of the Lutheran church for many years. The father never sought to figure prominently in the public life of the community but concentrates his efforts and attention upon his business affairs and won a substantial measure of success, although he started out in life empty handed.

Christ Leimbach, whose name introduces this review, acquired a common school education in Germany, where he remained until he reached the age of fourteen years, devoting all that period to his school duties. He afterward worked at the tinsmith's trade until he reached the age of twenty-two and then came to Door county, working with his father until the latter's death. After his father's demise he sold the old home farm and purchased one hundred and sixty acres on section 5, Jacksonport township. He has here erected a new residence and also built a concrete silo. There is a large barn upon the place and all equipments and accessories known to the model farm of the twentieth century, for Mr. Leimbach is very progressive in his methods and his business affairs are wisely and capably directed.

On the 28th of November, 1900, Mr. Leimbach was married to Miss Minnie Rholl, a daughter of John and Katherina Rholl, who were natives of Germany. The father passed away in Germany and the mother is now living with her daughter, Mrs. Valentine Bach, of Egg Harbor township. Mr. and Mrs. Leimbach have become the parents of eleven children: August; Emma; Venda; Augusta, who died in infancy and was buried in the Lutheran cemetery; Hulda; Fred; Martha; Ruth; Pauline; Wilhelm; and Louis. The religious faith of the family is that of the Lutheran church. Mr. Leimbach has led a busy and useful life, concentrating his time and efforts upon his farm work, and his well directed energy, his thrift and his business ability have won him a very substantial measure of success.

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#### FRANK TEICHTLER.

Among the up-to-date and enterprising farmers who have made Nasewaupsee township a prosperous agricultural section is Frank Teichtler, who was born in that township October 9, 1882, a son of Wenzel and Emilia Teichtler, natives of Germany. The father was born February 15, 1842, and in 1870 became a resident of Door county, Wisconsin, where he acquired title to a valuable farm. He passed away on the 11th of October, 1916. His first wife died May 13, 1888, and was buried in the Shoemaker cemetery, where his remains are also interred.

He was married a second time April 9, 1892, the lady of his choice being Mrs. Augusta Greenwood, who was born in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, February 24, 1855, of German ancestry. By her marriage to Mr. Teichtler she became the mother of two children, both of whom died in infancy and are buried in Bayside cemetery. She now makes her home with our subject and his brother Phillip. Five children were born to Mr. Teichtler's first marriage, namely: Charles, Rosa, now deceased; Frank; Phillip, who resides on the home farm; and Henry, who is married and is likewise engaged in farming in Nasewaupee township.

Frank Teichtler attended the district schools in the acquirement of his education and gained his training in agricultural pursuits through helping his father with the farm work. He now owns forty acres of the homestead, and the buildings, which are substantial and well designed, are located upon his farm. The other forty acres of the place is the property of his brother Phillip. The land is all cleared and under cultivation and the brothers receive a good income as the result of their industry and good management.

Mr. Teichtler belongs to the German Lutheran church and in his daily life exemplifies his Christian faith. He votes the republican ticket and takes the interest of a good citizen in the questions and issues of the day but has no ambition to hold office. He is well and favorably known throughout the county and has thoroughly identified his interests with those of his community.

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#### LUDWIG BONGLE.

Ludwig Bongle, who ranks among the prosperous farmers of Sevastopol township, was born in that township, August 29, 1880, a son of Louis and Anna (Suess) Bongle, who were born, reared and married in Germany. They emigrated to America, however, the year following their marriage and at once cast in their lot with that of Door county, Wisconsin, the father purchasing the south half of the southwest quarter of section 3, Sevastopol township. In a comparatively short time he brought that tract of wild timber land under cultivation and he continued to devote his energies to the operation of his farm until his death, which occurred on the 8th of December, 1906. He was a Catholic in religious faith and is buried in the Institute cemetery. His wife survives and still resides upon the homestead. Eight children were born to them, namely: Louis, a resident of Sevastopol township; John, who is living at Little Sturgeon Bay; Ludwig; William and Henry, both residents of Sevastopol township; Anna, who is the wife of Robert Boni, of Milwaukee; Herman, a resident of North Dakota; and Ed, who is on the home farm.

Ludwig Bongle had the usual experiences of the farm bred boy, attending school when his labor was not required upon the homestead. From sixteen years of age until his father's death he devoted his entire attention to assisting the latter and has since operated the farm for his mother with the assistance of his brother Ed. He follows the methods which have proved best adapted to the soil and climate here and as he is also a capable business man his affairs are so managed that he receives a good income from the farm.

Mr. Bongle is a republican in politics but has not the time to take an active part

in public affairs, his farming interests requiring his undivided attention. In religious faith he is a Catholic. He has a wide acquaintance and is one of the popular young men of his township.

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PAUL OLSON.

Paul Olson, who is successfully engaged in farming on section 34, Nasewaupee township, was born March 18, 1859, in Gudbrandsdalen, Norway, and grew to manhood and received his education in his native land. In 1881 he emigrated to the United States and for the first summer resided in Iowa. During one winter he was employed on a railroad running to a lumber camp and for one summer he worked in a blast furnace in Illinois. Later he was for some time in Michigan but in July, 1884, came to Door county, Wisconsin, and took up his residence on forty acres of wild land, which he cleared and improved and which yielded good crops. He received a sufficient income from his land to enable him to subsequently acquire title to an additional eighty acres and his farm therefore now comprises one hundred and twenty acres. He has based his success upon hard work, careful attention to all details of business and the practice of thrift, and the prosperity which is now his is well merited. He is also a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Company of Sawyer.

In 1879 Mr. Olson was married to Miss Mathilda Olson and they have the following children: Olaf, who is living in Foster City, Michigan; Paulina, the wife of Sam Haugland, of Evanston, Illinois; Reuben, a resident of Aitkin, Minnesota; Christina, who is the wife of Robert Larson, of Nasewaupee township; Anna, who gave her hand in marriage to Hendrick Christofferson, of Idlewild; Helga, the wife of Eli Larson, of Nasewaupee township; and Albert, Simon, and Jacob and Esther, twins, all of whom are at home.

Mr. Olson is a staunch advocate of the principles of the republican party and for fifteen years held the office of road overseer, discharging his duties with marked fidelity and ability. He holds membership in the Norwegian Lutheran church and its teachings have guided his life.

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CONRAD FAUST.

Definitely choosing America as a place of residence, Conrad Faust has remained in this country since 1881, enjoying the protection of its laws, utilizing the business opportunities offered and steadily working his way upward to success. He is now a representative farmer of Door county, living on section 30, Baileys Harbor township. He was born in Hessen, Germany, January 27, 1855, a son of Ontars and Barbara (Liloech) Faust, who spent their entire lives in Germany, where the father followed the occupation of farming.

Conrad Faust was reared in his native country and there devoted his attention to general agricultural pursuits. At the age of twenty-six years he came to the United States and settled in Washington county, Wisconsin, where he was em-

ployed at farm labor for a year. During that period he carefully saved his earnings and at the end of that time was able to purchase land, becoming the owner of one hundred and thirty acres in 1882. The entire tract was covered with a native growth of forest trees and Mr. Faust at once began to clear the place and improve it in every way. He built thereon a good frame house and added all the necessary outbuildings for the shelter of grain and stock. As the years passed and he prospered in his undertakings he extended the boundaries of his farm by the additional purchase of forty acres and now has an excellent farm of one hundred and seventy acres which he still owns and occupies. This represents the result of his own efforts, his industry, his determination and his energy. His place is today one of the best farms in the district, equipped with all modern conveniences, and in his farm work he employs the most modern methods.

In 1882 Mr. Faust was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Amrich, a daughter of Mastis and Catharine (Martins) Amrich. Mrs. Faust was born in Germany in 1855 and came with an aunt to the United States, her home being established in Washington county, Wisconsin, and it was there that she became the wife of Conrad Faust. To this marriage have been born five children, Annie, Katie, Elsie, Minnie and Louise. The family is today well known in Baileys Harbor township and the hospitality of the best homes of the locality is cordially extended the parents and children. Mr. Faust is a representative business man, alert and energetic. He has made good use of his time and opportunities and as the years have passed he has advanced step by step to the goal of prosperity, being now one of the men of affluence in his community.

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#### LESTER E. BIRMINGHAM.

Lester E. Birmingham, whose intelligently directed efforts have won him place among the leading horticulturists and dairymen of Door county, resides on section 29, Sevastopol township. He was born in Sturgeon Bay, May 14, 1874, a son of Eugene and Mezilla (Grant) Birmingham, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this work. After acquiring his preliminary education in the public schools of Sturgeon Bay he spent two years as a student in the State University, pursuing a special course in horticulture. He then returned to Sturgeon Bay and was employed in the grocery department of the Washburn store through the succeeding decade. In 1906 he invested his savings in the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section 29, Sevastopol township, and took up his abode thereon in 1910. There were no improvements on the place, which was covered with scrub timber, but he has wrought a marked transformation in the appearance of this farm. He has twenty acres planted to cherry and apple trees and his orchard is in splendid condition, for he utilizes the most modern and scientific methods of horticulture in developing his place. The remainder of the farm is devoted to dairying and in both branches of his business he is meeting with splendid success.

On the 14th of October, 1903, Mr. Birmingham was united in marriage to Miss Lydia Wilson, a daughter of George S. and Chloe (Fairchilds) Wilson, who are natives of New York state and were pioneer settlers of Sheboygan, Wisconsin. They are now living with Mr. and Mrs. Birmingham and enjoying excellent

health, both having reached the age of eighty years. Mr. and Mrs. Birmingham have become the parents of two children: Evelyn, born August 18, 1904; and Harriett, born July 14, 1907.

Mr. Birmingham is a member of the Knights of Pythias and of the Modern Woodmen of America. He is now filling the office of school clerk. He is a Congregationalist in religious faith and his influence is always on the side of right, progress and reform. His life has been well spent. Earnest, persistent effort has been the foundation of his growing success and he has become one of the prosperous farmers of Sevastopol township, winning success in both horticulture and dairying by reason of his thorough understanding of the scientific principles which underlie both branches of his work.

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#### CAPTAIN J. A. WILSON.

Captain J. A. Wilson, now deceased, was one of the best known representatives of navigation interests on the Great Lakes. He devoted almost half a century to sailing and for many years was employed by the Goodrich Navigation Company of Chicago. He was born in Cleveland, Ohio, May 8, 1850, a son of Albert and Alice (Freiberg) Wilson. His father and his grandfather were both natives of France. The former was a physician in that country and died on the ocean while en route to the United States.

His son, Captain Wilson, was educated in the schools of Cleveland, Ohio, pursuing his studies until he reached the age of fourteen years, when he began sailing on the Great Lakes. He made several trips from New Orleans to Liverpool, England, also and later he returned to the lakes, being employed by the Goodrich Line. He remained in that service for forty-six years, a fact which is unmistakable evidence of his capability and also of his fidelity to the interests of the corporation which he represented.

On the 8th of December, 1887, Captain Wilson was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Collins, a native of Chicago and a daughter of Hugh and Catharine (McDermot) Collins. Her father was a native of County Louth, Ireland, as was the mother, and they were married in that country. In the early '40s they came to the United States on a sailing vessel which was ten weeks and five days in completing the voyage. They then proceeded by boat from Buffalo to Chicago and took passage on the sailing vessel Susanna Clark for Baileys Harbor, Wisconsin. On reaching Door county Mr. Collins purchased a tract of government land on which not a furrow had been turned nor an improvement made. He at once began to clear and develop the place, built thereon a log cabin and log barns and with characteristic energy continued the task of preparing the land for the plow. He continued upon that land throughout his remaining days. His first purchase consisted of forty acres and afterward he bought one hundred and twenty acres of the old Panter farm. In fact at one time he owned several different farms in the county. He came to this section of the state to burn lime for Mr. Williams, of Chicago, and being pleased with the district, he afterward invested in his farm property, as previously stated. As the years passed he won success and became one of the prosperous agriculturists of the community, while the integrity and

straightforwardness of his business methods gained for him the regard, confidence and goodwill of all with whom he came in contact. He died in the year 1912 and is still survived by his widow, who resides on the old homestead at the age of eighty-three years. Mrs. Wilson is also the owner of farm property at Kangaroo Lake and now has a fine hotel building and other buildings there. She is a pioneer in the summer resort business at Baileys Harbor and has been very successful in her undertakings. She was educated in Baileys Harbor, walking from the old home farm two and a half miles through an Indian village or camp on the old McKinley farm to school. There were no roads in those early days. The entire countryside was densely covered with timber and the Indians were numerous in this section of the state. Wild game of all kinds was plentiful and there were many hardships and trials to be endured by the early settlers who were reclaiming the region for the purposes of civilization. Mrs. Wilson can relate many interesting incidents of the early days and her memory forms a connecting link between the primitive past and the progressive present.

To Captain and Mrs. Wilson were born four children: John E., who is now a mate on the steamer Alabama of the Goodrich Lines; Alice, who is now Mrs. Jasper McNeely, of St. Paul; Mrs. Georgia Maule, of Chicago; and Arthur, who conducts an automobile garage at Baileys Harbor.

Such in brief is the history of Captain Wilson and his family. His long residence in this section of the state made him widely known and his extended connection with navigation interests made him one of the most prominent representatives of nautical life in this section of the state. He deserves much credit for what he accomplished, for from an early age he was dependent upon his own resources, providing for his own support when a lad of but fourteen. Gradually he worked his way upward, gaining his promotion, until for many years he commanded vessels of the Goodrich Line with the rank of captain. His sterling worth was recognized by the corporation which he represented, by his associates on the ship and by all with whom he came in contact.

Mrs. Wilson possesses marked business ability and a spirit of enterprise has prompted her to enter actively in the work of entertaining summer tourists and she has done much to make Baileys Harbor a most attractive summer resort.

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### JOSEPH A. LA MERE.

Joseph A. La Mere was for many years a prominent business man of Jacksonport township, but at the time of his death was residing in Sturgeon Bay. He was a man of sterling worth and his loss was deeply felt by his many friends as well as by his immediate family. He was born in Two Rivers, Wisconsin, December 15, 1857, of the marriage to Adolphus L. and Hannah (McIntosh) La Mere, who were born respectively in the province of Quebec, Canada, and in England. However, their marriage occurred in Two Rivers, where the father engaged in the hotel business for a number of years and where he passed away. To them were born eight children, of whom five survive, namely: Thomas, a resident of Sheboygan; Edward, who is living in Manitowoc; Matilda, now Mrs. Joseph Gill, of

Sheboygan; Julia, who is the wife of Charles Henry, of Crystal Falls; and Hannah, the wife of Louis Tessier, of Minnesota.

Joseph A. La Mere attended the district schools until he was fourteen years of age and then began working as a fisherman, being so employed in various places until he was eighteen years old. He then came to Jacksonport and engaged in fishing on his own account until 1885, in which year he erected a store building and engaged in general merchandising. He also became the owner of a trading boat, which was used to transport lumber and provisions, as he dealt extensively in those commodities. In 1913 he turned over to his son Frank the management of his store, which by that time had become one of the leading mercantile concerns of Jacksonport, and he removed to Sturgeon Bay, where he gave his entire time and attention to lumber freighting until his death, which occurred October 12, 1914. He was buried in the Catholic cemetery at Sturgeon Bay.

On the 16th of August, 1877, occurred the marriage of Mr. La Mere and Miss Almira Le Claire, a daughter of Victor and Mary (Harrington) Le Claire, who were early settlers of Jacksonport, where her father engaged in business as a lumber contractor for a number of years. He passed away in 1885, having survived his wife for a long period, as she died when her daughter Almira was but three years of age and was buried in Mishicot, Manitowoc county. Mr. Le Claire subsequently married Virginia Burbie, of Mishicot, who was born in Quebec, Canada. She survives and now resides in Jacksonport. By his first marriage Mr. Le Claire had five children: Josephine, who is the wife of Alfred La Fond, of Two Rivers; Victor, deceased; Olive, the deceased wife of Frank Hunt, of Menominee, Michigan; Almira; and Edward T., who at the time of his death was a resident of Milwaukee. By his second marriage Mr. Le Claire had the following children: Mary, who is the wife of Ed Cayo, of Duluth, Minnesota; Joseph, who resided in Algoma but is now deceased; Louis, a resident of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Anna, the wife of Homer Remillard, of Sturgeon Bay; George, who was drowned in Green Bay when the steamer Hackley was shipwrecked; Henry, who died at Oshkosh; Bert, of Jacksonport; and Andrew. Mr. Le Claire was quite prominent in local affairs, as he served for a number of years as township treasurer and as a member of the board of supervisors.

To Mr. and Mrs. La Mere were born twelve children, namely: Frank, a resident of Sturgeon Bay; Emma, at home; Mabel, who died when ten years old; Cora, the wife of George Young, of Jacksonport township; Lucy, now Mrs. Leo G. Crell, of Portland, Oregon; Edward, who died when eight months old; Bernard, who is a member of the Wisconsin National Guard and is now stationed at Camp Douglas; Mary, who is a teacher of china painting in Milwaukee; Irene, a resident of Two Rivers; Clarence, who died when twenty years old; Genevieve, who is residing in Sturgeon Bay; and Leo, at home.

Mr. La Mere was independent in politics, voting for the man rather than for the party, but although he served acceptably for several years as postmaster of Jacksonport he was not an office seeker, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his business interests. In religious faith he was a Catholic and his fraternal connection was that of the Catholic Knights of Wisconsin. He was quick to recognize a business opportunity and prompt in carrying out his decisions, and notwithstanding the fact that he began his career empty-handed he became financially independent and one of the leading business men of the county.



Mrs. La Mere makes her home in Jacksonport, where she owns a fine residence, and she is actively engaged in the conduct of the general store there established by her husband and also in the management of the hotel, which is accorded a good patronage. She owns a two hundred acre farm in Jacksonport township and in the control of her various interests has manifested excellent business ability. She is widely known throughout the county and those who have been most intimately associated with her are her staunchest friends.

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### JOHN FALK.

While making his home in Sturgeon Bay, John Falk devotes his attention to general agricultural pursuits and his capable business management has brought to him a substantial measure of success. He was born in Stavanger, Norway, in October, 1845, a son of Jorgen and Bertha Falk, who were also natives of that country. The father was a cooper by trade and worked along that line for some time but afterward became a sailor and was lost at sea. In 1847 his wife came to the new world, making her way westward to Wisconsin. She became a resident of Green Bay in 1850 and after a time was married to Solway Solwayson, who was also a cooper by trade and established his first cooper shop where the brewery is now located in Sturgeon Bay. He also entered land in Door county and afterward purchased other tracts, his later years being devoted to general agricultural pursuits. Both Mr. and Mrs. Solwayson have passed away.

John Falk was but five years of age when he came to Wisconsin with his mother. He was reared and educated in Sturgeon Bay and has the distinction of being the oldest living settler in the county. He was employed at farm labor in his early youth and at sixteen years of age he responded to the call of his adopted country for aid in crushing out rebellion in the south. He enlisted as a member of Company H, Twelfth Wisconsin Infantry, and served for two years or during the war, remaining at the front until hostilities had ceased. He weighed but ninety-five pounds when he enlisted. He saw much active service, including the march with Sherman from Atlanta to the sea. When the war was over he returned to Wisconsin and was employed by his stepfather on the farm. Later he worked in a sawmill and carefully saved his earnings until his economy and industry had brought him sufficient capital to enable him to purchase eighty acres of land on section 32, Sevastopol township. He at once set about clearing and improving this place and has since continued its cultivation, although he makes his home on Cedar street in Sturgeon Bay. He has sold all but thirty acres of his land which is now planted to orchards, and he has over fifteen acres in fruit, mostly cherries. He also owns ten acres in the city, together with a business block in Sturgeon Bay, and he likewise has three store buildings in Sawyer. He is likewise the owner of a stone quarry and a lime kiln inside the city limits of Sturgeon Bay. His property possessions are thus important and extensive and return to him a gratifying annual income. Moreover, they represent a wise investment of his time, talents and opportunities, for he has so directed his labors that success in substantial measure has come to him.

In May, 1872, Mr. Falk was united in marriage to Miss Nancy Sherwood and

to them were born six children: May, who is the wife of Irving Buchan, of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin; George, a resident of Brockton, Massachusetts; Bert, at home; and William, Fred and William, all of whom have passed away. The wife and mother passed away March 3, 1917, after a short illness of but twelve days, and her death was deeply deplored not only by her immediate family but also by many friends throughout the community.

Mr. Falk has taken an active and helpful interest in public affairs. He served as road overseer before Sturgeon Bay became a village. He has also been a member of the city council for several years and while holding that office exercised his official prerogatives in support of many measures and movements for the general good. In fact his aid and influence are always given on the side of progress and improvement and he is a staunch supporter of all those activities which are a matter of civic virtue and of civic pride. His political allegiance is given to the republican party, his religious faith is that of the Methodist church and fraternally he is connected with the Grand Army of the Republic, thus maintaining pleasant relations with his old military comrades. His sterling worth has made him highly respected and wherever he is known he has many friends. All speak of him in terms of high regard and Door county numbers him not only as its oldest citizen but also as one of its most valued.

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#### EUGENE BIRMINGHAM.

Eugene Birmingham, who is devoting his time and attention largely to horticultural pursuits, is the owner of an excellent farm in Sevastopol township. He was born in Wyoming county, New York, December 22, 1842, and has therefore passed the seventy-fourth milestone on life's journey. His parents were Stewart J. and Mary (Fillmore) Birmingham, both of whom were natives of the Empire state. The father was a farmer by occupation and at an early period in the development of Wisconsin removed to this state, purchasing land in Racine county. He entered land from the government and continued to develop and improve his place for a number of years but afterward removed to Outagamie county, Wisconsin, where he again improved a farm, there spending his remaining days, his death occurring in 1868. His wife passed away in 1879.

Eugene Birmingham was reared and educated in Outagamie county, Wisconsin, and remained with his parents until he attained his majority, when in response to the country's call for aid he enlisted as a member of Company D, Forty-first Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, with which he served until he became ill and was sent home, being no longer fit for active field duty. He then took up the occupation of farming, which he followed for several years in Outagamie county, but in the spring of 1872 removed to Door county and made his home for several years in Sturgeon Bay, after which he purchased land near the city, where the fair grounds are now situated. That farm he continued to cultivate for seven years and then returned to Sturgeon Bay, where he operated a well drilling outfit for several years. He next took up his abode upon his present place in Sevastopol township, adjoining the property of his sons. Here he has since been engaged

in fruit raising, having an orchard of three hundred cherry trees, which produces nearly two hundred cases of cherries each year.

On the 25th of December, 1871, Mr. Birmingham was united in marriage to Miss Mecilla Grant, a daughter of Avery C. and Ann W. (Wickwire) Grant, who were natives of New York and of Nova Scotia respectively. On removing westward they settled in Outagamie county, Wisconsin, when the work of development and improvement seemed scarcely begun in that district. The father purchased land there and at once began to break the sod and till the soil. He continued to engage in farming there throughout his remaining days. He, too, was a soldier of the Civil war, enlisting as a member of Company I, Thirty-second Wisconsin Infantry, with which he served for one year, when he was discharged on account of illness. He died in 1902, while his wife survived until 1909.

To Mr. and Mrs. Birmingham have been born nine children: Lester, who is engaged in the operation of a farm adjoining that of his father in Sevastopol township; Oscar, also an agriculturist of Sevastopol township, Door county; Edna, the wife of Alden Stevenson, of Algoma, Iowa; Avery, who is engaged in agricultural pursuits in Sevastopol township, this county; Lulu, at home; Elmer, who died at the age of eighteen years; Elsie, who passed away when sixteen years of age; Lee, who died at the age of eleven years; and Arthur, who was but nine weeks old when he passed away.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Birmingham are faithful members of the Methodist church and have guided their lives according to its teachings. His political allegiance has always been given to the republican party and he has been a loyal adherent thereof. He belongs to the Grand Army post and he is as true and loyal to his duties of citizenship as when he followed the old flag on southern battlefields and aided in carrying the stars and stripes to victory.

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### WILLIAM EASTMAN.

William Eastman, a resident farmer of Baileys Harbor township, living on section 3, was born in Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, near the city of Fond du Lac, March 9, 1867, his parents being Franklin and Mary Eastman, the former a native of Muskego, Wisconsin, while the latter was born in Ireland. The father spent his boyhood and youth at the place of his nativity and there acquired his education. He afterward removed to Eureka, Illinois, where he engaged in the livery business for a number of years, but in 1861 he established his home in Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin. There, in response to the country's call for troops, his patriotic spirit having been aroused, he enlisted in the Wisconsin cavalry, with which he served for three years under General Bragg. He was taken suddenly ill and returned to his home in Fond du Lac county. Later he purchased a farm there which he continued to operate until 1882, when he sold out and entered the employ of the Huber Drug Company, hunting herbs and roots in the woods to be used for medicine. He continued with that firm for thirty-five years and passed away in Fond du Lac at the very advanced age of eighty-three. His wife was killed by a Northwestern train while on her way to a picnic. They were both

consistent members of the Presbyterian church and Mr. Eastman gave his political allegiance to the republican party.

William Eastman spent his youthful days in Fond du Lac and pursued his education in its public schools. He there took up the study of photography but at the age of eighteen years went to Milwaukee, where he conducted a paint shop and did contract painting, remaining in business in that city until 1804. He then came to Baileys Harbor and was employed by the Cream City Brick Company until he removed to Iron Mountain, where he spent three years, working in the iron ore mines. On returning to Baileys Harbor he purchased two hundred acres of land, constituting his present farm. A part of this he personally cleared. He has erected new buildings and now has a splendidly improved property equipped with all the conveniences and accessories known to the model farm of the twentieth century. He practices the rotation of crops, utilizes the most advanced methods in preparing his fields and cultivating his crops and is meeting with a very substantial measure of success.

In 1805 Mr. Eastman was united in marriage to Miss Mary Anderson, a native of Sweden and a daughter of Otto and Hattie Anderson, who came with their family to the United States when their daughter, Mrs. Eastman, was but three years of age. They established their home at North Bay, Wisconsin, where the father took up a homestead claim, upon which he spent his remaining days. At that time Baileys Harbor township was all a dense forest district. He cleared one hundred and sixty acres of land and in the midst of his farm built a little shanty. Later this was replaced by a log cabin and still later he built a more commodious and modern frame dwelling. He continued to engage in farming upon that place until death ended his labors on the 26th of June, 1917. For a long period he had survived his wife, who passed away in 1906, when seventy-two years of age. Mr. Anderson was familiar with every phase of pioneer life. He did all of his work with ox teams in the early days and he endured many hardships and privations while reclaiming his land and converting it into a productive farm. To Mr. and Mrs. Eastman have been born nine children: Violet, Elsie, Ollie, Henry, Edith, Helen, Ethel, Merrill and Hazel.

In his political views Mr. Eastman is a republican, having supported the party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He has filled the office of supervisor for nine years, has been school clerk for two years and school director for three years. The cause of education finds in him a stalwart champion and he stands for everything that is progressive in relation to public affairs. He is actuated by high ideals in regard to the welfare of his community and he stands at all times for the patriotic principles which underlie the country and our republican form of government.

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#### HON. THOMAS REYNOLDS.

It was Hon. Thomas Reynolds who introduced the bill that secured the State Park for Door county and with public affairs he has been prominently identified, while at the same time he has been active in farming interests. He was born in Longford, Ireland, a son of Michael and Mary Ann (McCann) Reynolds, who

were farming people of that country and there reared their family of nine children, of whom two are still living: Henry, now a resident of Sturgeon Bay; and Thomas, of this review. In the fall of 1866, Thomas Reynolds came to the United States with his sister Katherine as passengers on the steamer Scotland. This sister afterward became the wife of James Gray and lived at Stevens Point and at Ripon, Wisconsin, but is now deceased. The mother died in Ireland during the early boyhood of her son Thomas, and in 1867 the father with the other members of the family, Henry, Maria, Lawrence and James, came to the new world, making his way to Madison, Wisconsin, where lived his son John, who had located there a few years before. Another son, Michael, had crossed the Atlantic about two years before Thomas Reynolds made the voyage, and Michael, Thomas and their father secured a farm seven miles from Madison and there gave their attention to general agricultural pursuits for several years. It was upon that place that the father ultimately passed away.

John Reynolds was a real estate operator in Madison and with others he purchased two thousand acres of timber land in the vicinity of Jacksonport, Door county. Here they built a pier, a mill and a store, thus becoming important factors in the early development of Jacksonport. They began to clear their land for the cedar on it, and in 1868 Thomas Reynolds came to Jacksonport to work for the company, with which he remained for a year. The following year he purchased several pieces of cedar land, becoming owner of seven hundred acres in all, and from this he also began to cut the timber, devoting four years to that work. He was unfortunate, however, in being caught on a low market in those years and his undertaking proved unprofitable. He then turned his attention to farming, which was more definite in its results, and again engaged in the cultivation of land near Madison for one year. On the expiration of that period he returned to Jacksonport township and purchased the north half of the northwest quarter of section 27. This was a tract of wild timber land, on which he built a log shack. He then began to clear the place and has since devoted his attention to its cultivation and improvement. His labors in this connection have been fraught with good results and he has become one of the prosperous farmers of Door county. His business affairs have been most carefully and wisely conducted. His farm work has been carried on according to progressive methods and his labors have brought him a very gratifying competence.

Mr. Reynolds was united in marriage to Miss Jane Foley, a daughter of John and Katherine (Nangel) Foley, who resided near Milwaukee, where they were early settlers and where the father engaged in farming until his death. Both were natives of Ireland. To Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds were born nine children who are yet living, namely: Mabel, who is assistant to the state superintendent of schools at Madison; Anna, who is librarian of the normal school in Cheney, Washington; John, a resident of Green Bay; Paul, an assistant to the state tax commissioner at Madison; Edith, a high school teacher in Fond du Lac; Sidney, at home; Lucille, who is engaged in teaching in Montana; Jane, a trained nurse in Milwaukee; and Helen, at home. Thomas, Jr., the fourth child of the family, was drowned while skating in Green Bay, his tragic death occurring when he was nearly twenty-one years of age. His remains were interred in the Jacksonport cemetery.

In community affairs Mr. Reynolds has taken a very active and helpful in-

terest. He has served as township chairman for several years and on the township board has done splendid work. He was for two terms sent to represent his district in the state legislature, where he was connected with many important laws that are now found on the statute books of the state. He gave careful consideration to every vital question which came up for settlement and his endorsement of a measure indicated most clearly his belief in its efficacy as a factor in good government. He has had not a little to do with molding public thought and opinion and ranks with the representative and honored residents of this section of the state.

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### BERT D. THORP.

One of the most progressive business men of Ephraim is Bert D. Thorp, who is in the government employ in connection with river and harbor concrete work and who is also the proprietor of the Eagle Inn, the finest hotel in Ephraim. His life record illustrates what can be accomplished by determined purpose guided by keen intelligence. He was born in Tomah, Wisconsin, December 26, 1869, a son of Adelbert D. and Ellen A. (Durkee) Thorp, the former a native of Oswego, New York, and the latter of Dodge county, Wisconsin. The father became one of the pioneer settlers of Door county, where he arrived at an early day, and through the intervening years to the present he has left the impress of his individuality in indelible manner upon the history of this section of the state. He responded to the country's call for troops to aid in the preservation of the Union, giving valuable aid to the cause of liberty. He is now employed at the canal. He has served his district as representative in the state legislature and in many ways has contributed to public progress and improvement. His wife passed away August 14, 1893.

Bert D. Thorp was reared and educated in Sturgeon Bay and started out in the business world in connection with canal work, becoming assistant superintendent. Throughout all the intervening years he has been in the government service and is now employed in the river and harbor concrete work. In 1908 he and his wife erected the finest hotel in Ephraim, known as Eagle Inn, which they have since conducted. This beautiful hostelry has accommodations for one hundred and fifty people and is filled through the summer months, thus being an ideal summer resort, with its prevailing cool winds and water front. Mrs. Thorp largely manages the hotel, while Mr. Thorp gives his attention to his government work.

On the 28th of December, 1893, Mr. Thorp was united in marriage to Miss Eugenia E. Smith, a daughter of Jacob A. and Bertha S. (Valentine) Smith. They have become parents of two children: Ivan Lloyd, born at Sturgeon Bay, June 24, 1895; and Glenn Eugene, born December 6, 1901, in Sturgeon Bay, where the family reside during the winter months.

Mr. Thorp belongs to the Knights of Pythias lodge and his religious faith is that of the Moravian church. Politically he is a republican but has never sought nor desired office, preferring to concentrate his attention and energy upon his business affairs. That he is most trustworthy and reliable is indicated in the fact

that from early manhood he has been retained in the government service, making an excellent record in that connection. His business enterprise is also manifest in the fact that he is now at the head of the leading hotel in Ephraim and has contributed much toward making this an attractive resort for summer tourists.

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#### O. S. OLSEN.

On the shore of Lake Michigan, on section 34, Baileys Harbor township, Door county, is found the fine farm property of O. S. Olsen, who is regarded as one of the most progressive agriculturists and horticulturists of his section of the state. He was born in Stavanger, Norway, September 25, 1853, a son of Ole Engnudsen and Turber Engemusson. His father was a farmer of Norway and he and his wife always remained residents of that country until called to their final rest.

O. S. Olsen spent his boyhood days in Norway to the age of thirteen years, when he made the long voyage across the Atlantic on a sailing vessel which after six weeks reached the harbor of Quebec, Canada. He had made the trip with his aunt, Mrs. Larson, and lived with her for a year. He then went to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he spent one year, after which he and his aunt secured passage on a small vessel bound for North Bay. They landed at Ephraim, Wisconsin, and became residents of Door county. Mr. Olsen took up the fishing business, which he followed near Chambers Island, Summer Island and Sag Bay as well as at other points for a number of years. In 1877, however he withdrew from active connection with the fishing industry and was married. He then took up his present homestead, which at that time was a tract of wooded land. He had no money but though empty-handed he possessed industry, determination and unfaltering purpose. He cleared his farm of eighty acres and built a log house, which remained his home for a number of years, when it was replaced by a frame residence after his original dwelling had been destroyed by fire in the middle of winter. He carefully and systematically cultivates his fields and in his farm work is meeting with very desirable success. He also has a fine dock and fishing launch and small boats, which he uses in his fishing business. He is also making a specialty of fruit raising and has planted a large orchard to apple and cherry trees, having fifteen hundred cherry trees. He now has a modern home in the midst of beautiful grounds and his farm borders Lake Michigan. Through his own efforts he has become one of the most prosperous residents of this part of the county and deserves much credit for what he has accomplished.

In 1877 Mr. Olsen was united in marriage to Miss Serena Larson, a daughter of Ole and Sorene Larson. She was born in Ephraim, Wisconsin, but her parents were natives of Norway and were among the earliest settlers of Ephraim, where her father followed the occupation of farming. To Mr. and Mrs. Olsen have been born four children: Julia, Alfred, Emily and Agnes.

The life record of Mr. Olsen should well serve as a source of inspiration and encouragement to others, showing what may be accomplished when determination and energy point out the way. His persistency of purpose has enabled him

to overcome obstacles and difficulties and laudable ambition has pointed out the path to success. He has worked untiringly, has accomplished splendid results and is today one of the prosperous farmers of his community.

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### JOSEPH ZETTEL.

Prominent among the early settlers of Door county was Joseph Zettel, who was one of the first to turn his attention to fruit growing in this region, and in that line of endeavor he met with most excellent success. He was born in Canton Lucerne, Switzerland, on the 26th of November, 1832, and was a son of Joseph and Mary Josepha (Rosly) Zettel, who spent their entire lives in that country. The father was an innkeeper and he also served as judge of the circuit court and as captain in the reserve army. When our subject was seventeen years of age his mother died and his father subsequently married again. When a young man he came to the new world, leaving his old home on the 27th of March, 1853, and landing in New York after a trip of fifty-three days. For the following two years he was employed in railroad construction work and on farms in various places.

It was in 1855 that Mr. Zettel arrived in Door county, Wisconsin, and for some time he worked in sawmills and lime kilns, but in the spring of 1857 began clearing a tract of land which he had purchased on section 22, Sevastopol township. Later he sold this tract, however, and bought other land on section 27, the same township. In time he cleared this tract of timber and underbrush and converted it into a very desirable farm. His first buildings were of a primitive character, but these were subsequently replaced by excellent farm buildings. He soon discovered that the soil was adapted to fruit growing and planted apple, pear and other fruit trees. Under his scientific care they flourished, and in 1892 his orchard yielded three thousand bushels of apples. At the World's Fair in Chicago his displays attracted great attention. His orchard at that time was the largest in the state and he was the first fruit grower in Door county. It was his success that inspired others to engage in the same occupation until now fruit growing has become one of the most important industries of the county.

On the 28th of July, 1861, Mr. Zettel was united in marriage to Miss Christina Lorch, a native of Germany, born December 9, 1842, and a daughter of Christof and Margaretha (Leonhardt) Lorch. Her father died in Germany but in 1855 her mother came to the United States and located in Door county, Wisconsin. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Zettel are as follows: Christina, the deceased wife of James Aznoe; Philip A., a resident of Sturgeon Bay; Joseph, of Milwaukee; Alfred, of Sevastopol township; Henry, of Sturgeon Bay township; Jacob, of Sevastopol township; Julius, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work; Mrs. Catherine Crass, of Door county; Mrs. Louisa Strom, of Milwaukee; Mina, a resident of Door county; and Lillian, deceased.

Mr. Zettel took an active interest in public affairs and by his ballot supported the men and measures of the democratic party. His fellow citizens, recognizing his worth and ability, called upon him to fill a number of township offices, the



duties of which he discharged in a most capable manner. He was one of the county's most successful men and was held in the highest esteem by all who knew him. After a useful and well spent life he passed away on the 11th of March, 1904, at the old homestead, and his wife died there December 27, 1915. Both were laid to rest in Bayside cemetery.

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#### WALTER CORNELIUS OLSON.

Walter Cornelius Olson, the owner of the United States mail and stage-line between Sturgeon Bay and Ellison Bay, was born December 15, 1880. His father, Martin Olson (Malmer), came from Larviksneset in the extreme southern part of Norway in the latter '60s. He lived for a time near Ephraim but about 1870 became one of the first pioneers to settle near Ellison Bay. His mother, Mary Olson, was the daughter of Ole Larson (Levorson), the first Norwegian known to have settled in Door county. Mr. Larson was a member of the now forgotten fishing colony on Rock Island, which he joined some time in the '40s. Later he became one of the pioneers of Ephraim.

When Walter C. Olson was twenty years of age he enlisted in the United States life saving service and for ten years was connected with the life saving station on Plum Island. During his ten years' service in this exposed station he met with many interesting and thrilling experiences. As this station is in a very dangerous location the life saving crew were called out as many as twenty times in a season to give rescue to a shipwrecked vessel. The following narrative will give a glimpse of the many strange experiences a lifesaver will go through.

One day in 1907 the station received a dispatch from South Manitou Island telling of the disappearance of the gasoline boat "Hurry Back" having on board two men, a woman and a child. Four days after the date of this disappearance Mr. Olson was patrolling the beach. Searching the horizon for signs of distress he thought he saw a smoke ascend from the farther end of Detroit Island, about four miles away. He quickly called the captain's attention to it. However, the air was so thick with smoke in every direction that they both felt doubtful about the supposed camp fire. At Mr. Olson's suggestion the captain decided not to call the crew but to go with Mr. Olson in a small skiff to investigate the matter. They rowed across to Detroit Island and then tramped along the beach for a mile. At this point they came to a party of campers whose boat had been thrown high and dry on the rocks. There were two men, a woman and a child in the party and they had gone for four days without any food or rest. One man was so overcome by sickness, fatigue and lack of nourishment that he was expected to die. His companions in misery were now trying to make a broth for him out of a frog they had caught on the beach. Upon inquiry it proved that these were the missing persons from South Manitou Island. They had gone out to lift a net, were caught in storm, ran out of gasoline and had been buffeted about in storm and despair for four days. As the sick man was unable to walk, Mr. Olson took him on his back and carried him for a mile through the woods to where he and the captain had left their skiff. Here the life saving crew came and brought them to the station. A telegram was then sent to South Man-

itou Island telling of the rescue of the lost mariners. Soon the life saving crew from that island arrived with a motor boat to bring their lost ones back. They set off with the ill fated "Hurry Back" in tow but when they had gotten about twelve or fifteen miles out into the lake a heavy storm came up and they were driven back to the shores of Door county once more. The Plum Island crew were therefore again called upon to rescue them. It was decided not to trust them to the water again but to send them back to their island home by way of Chicago.

In 1910 Mr. Olson left the life saving service and obtained the contract for carrying the mail between Sturgeon Bay and Ellison Bay. Up to this time the stage line had been worked with horses and the long journey in slowly moving wagons was one of great hardship both to the passengers and beasts of burden. Mr. Olson at once began to install up-to-date automobile trucks, adding to the efficiency of the service until he at present is operating two heavy freight and mail trucks and three large automobile passenger busses. The service is now as prompt, rapid and pleasant as on the average railroad line in the state. As a result of this the traffic has greatly increased. Mr. Olson each year transports many thousand persons and so carefully has the service been conducted that scarcely a single mishap has occurred.

Mr. Olson was married December 21, 1904, to Miss Ida Disjarden, a daughter of Edmund Disjarden, the well known hotel owner of Ellison Bay. They have two children: Harvey, born March 10, 1906; and Clyde, born November 18, 1913. Mr. Olson has a farm and comfortable home near Ellison Bay but resides in Sturgeon Bay in order to better manage his important business.

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#### GEORGE LARSON.

George Larson, living on section 26, Gibraltar township, was born at Twedstand, Norway, October 28, 1859, a son of Lars and Gonvor (Gullickson) Jorgenson, who were also natives of the land of the midnight sun. The father was a shoemaker by trade and after following that business for a time later engaged in buying and selling timber, spending his entire life in Norway.

George Larson whose name introduces this review was reared and educated in Norway but in 1882, when a young man of twenty-three years, crossed the Atlantic to the new world, attracted by the better business opportunities which he believed he might find on this side of the water. He first took up his abode in Canada, where he remained for a short time, and then came to Door county, arriving in the month of June, 1882. He made his home with an uncle, for whom he worked for some time and during the winter cut cordwood and drove a team, being thus employed for two years. He was a carpenter by trade, having learned that business in Norway, and to a considerable extent he has worked at his trade. He has also operated a sawmill and planing mill with the exception of seven years spent at his trade and in the contracting business at Green Bay. Several years ago he purchased eighty acres of land on section 26, Gibraltar township, and has since improved and developed this place. He cleared a portion of it and has continued the work of cultivation, transforming his tract of land into a rich and

productive farm. At the same time he still operates his planing and sawmills and thus he is leading a very busy and useful life.

In May, 1889, Mr. Larson was united in marriage to Miss Mary Larson and to them have been born eight children, Edgar L., Lewis G., Olive G., Jennie M., Stella I., Reuben C., Ernest and Maurice.

In his political views Mr. Larson is a republican. His religious faith is that of the Moravian church and his life has been guided by the most high and honorable principles. He has served as an elder of his church for the past eighteen years and has done everything in his power to promote its growth and extend its influence. He has filled the office of road supervisor and at all times is loyal to the best interests of the community. He did not come to America to retain allegiance to Norway, but crossed the Atlantic to become an American citizen and has ever been most faithful to the interests of the republic under whose laws he has found protection and within whose borders he has found the opportunity to win success.

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#### THOMAS F. CARMODY.

One of the oldest and best known families in Door county is the Carmody family. Of the members of this large family none is better known than Thomas F. Carmody, Door county's famous road builder. Mr. Carmody was born November 23, 1868, in the town of Gibraltar. He is a son of John T. and Mary (Keeffe) Carmody. John T. Carmody was the oldest son of Thomas Carmody, Sr., who with his brother William settled in the southern part of the town of Egg Harbor in 1857. For many years they lived far back in the wilderness without neighbors, roads or any modern conveniences. The Carmody brothers were prompted to settle in this remote spot by the abundance of cedar, the land at that time being very little esteemed for its agricultural possibilities. In the latter '60s they moved further north in the town and founded the present settlement on what is now called Carmody prairie but which was then a huge forest. The Carmody family originally came from Limerick, Ireland.

Thomas F. Carmody, the subject of this sketch, has always lived in Door county. He received his common school education in Egg Harbor and has ever since then been one of the busiest men in the county. When Door county began its great road building programme in 1908 Mr. Carmody was the first contractor that did the work. He was also the first private individual to show his faith in the good roads movement by buying a stone crushing outfit and roller. Ever since 1908 up to the present, in 1917, Mr. Carmody has been busy building macadam roads, having built no less than forty-seven miles of macadam roads besides a number of city streets. He is therefore one of the most experienced men in the state in this line of work.

Mr. Carmody has also had much experience in conducting lumber camps and getting out cord wood. Not satisfied with building roads in summer and cutting timber in winter he is also a prominent farmer. Just south of Egg Harbor he owns a one hundred and twenty acre dairy farm with the most up-to-date buildings. He also is half owner in two other farms.

On November 8, 1892, Mr. Carmody was married to Miss Mary Baraboo, a

daughter of Levi Baraboo of Egg Harbor. He has had three children: Alonzo, who died in childhood; Evelyn, born October 1, 1895, and Grace, born June 2, 1899. The two young ladies are both exceptionally gifted in music.

Mr. Carmody was town treasurer of the town of Egg Harbor for a number of years. He is independent in politics, is a member of the Catholic Church at Egg Harbor and is one of the most useful men in the county.

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### CAPTAIN CHARLES REYNOLDS.

One of the most illustrious names in Door county's history is that of Charles Reynolds, captain and veteran of the Civil war, merchant, banker and political representative of Door county. He was born in County Longford in the central part of Ireland, November 15, 1839, the son of Michael and Mary Ann Reynolds, respectable farming people of that county. In 1860 he emigrated to America and joined his brother John, in Madison, Wisconsin, who had preceded him and was engaged in commercial pursuits. In September of the following year he enlisted in the Twelfth Wisconsin Infantry and was appointed sergeant major of the regiment. His promotion during the war was rapid. On March 19, 1862, he was made second lieutenant; on April 7, 1863, he was made first lieutenant; on October 7, 1864, he received his commission as captain; and in the spring of 1865 he was detailed as acting assistant adjutant general on the staff of General Charles M. Ewing.

A short time after his return to Madison the energetic young captain met Miss Mary Mahan, a daughter of Rev. A. Mahan, first president of Oberlin College, Ohio. They were married April 9, 1870.

In 1867 his brother, John Reynolds, with two partners had invested considerable money in the up to then unsettled wilderness of Jacksonport in Door county, with the object of shipping cedar and cord wood. The partners were unsuccessful from the start, however, and after several years of hard luck, during which they lost a great deal of money, they were obliged to go into bankruptcy. This property, including considerable land, a pier, a town site and a store, passed into the hands of certain creditors in Green Bay with whom Charles Reynolds was connected. In this way Mr. Reynolds was led to buy out the Jacksonport property and about 1875 moved up to take charge. No sooner had Charles Reynolds taken charge but an immediate and striking change was seen. Jacksonport began to grow and became a very busy and prosperous shipping point. Farmers were induced to settle and under Mr. Reynold's brisk management a very large merchandise business was conducted. Huge cargoes of forest products daily left the pier of Jacksonport leaving some money both for the clever merchant who handled the sales and the farmers who did the work. Instead of being a gloomy wilderness where the promoters had annually lost thousands of dollars Jacksonport soon became one of the most flourishing shipping points on the peninsula. In this work Mr. Reynolds and his farmer friends cooperated. Many of them came each year as new settlers, strong of brawn but with little or no capital. Mr. Reynolds would cheerfully fit them out for the winter while they in return by spring had banked up vast quantities of forest products for which he found the best markets.

Mr. Reynolds was a stalwart republican and was postmaster of Jacksonport from his first year of settlement there. In 1892 he was elected a member of the state legislature and was reelected in 1894. During his service as legislator he was counted as one of the foremost leaders of the Assembly. He was a member of the State Central Committee for many years. In 1901, he was appointed by the Governor to represent the state of Wisconsin as one of its Commissioners at the World's Exposition at Buffalo.

The above is but a very brief and incomplete enumeration of the salient points in Mr. Reynold's busy life. Space does not permit of the mention of the many patriotic and political organizations of which he was an honored and active member. At home as well as abroad he was a man of keen interests, participating in all matters pertaining to the upbuilding of his surroundings. During his last years he was vice president of the Merchants Exchange Bank. His death occurred February 2, 1914, at Biloxi, Mississippi, where he and Mrs. Reynolds had gone to spend the winter.

Successful as Mr. Reynolds was in all his dealings with the outside world he and Mrs. Reynolds were unfortunate within the privacy of the domestic circle. Five children were born to them, these being Michael, Mary, Charles, Dwight and Ruth. All these with the exception of the eldest died in infancy. He lived until he was twenty-one when he too was taken away from the bereaved mother and father. Mrs. Reynolds now alone survives of all her family. She lives in Boise City, Idaho.

Captain Charles Reynolds was a captain of men in a two fold sense. He not only won his title as captain in the army for signal courage and distinguished ability on the bloody battlefields of the South, but he also proved himself a captain of industry in developing the resources of Door county. He succeeded where others failed and in succeeding he also helped others to success. He was a benefactor to the needy and a good friend to those who struggled honestly for their betterment. There were no shams and pretensions in Mr. Reynolds. He was square, clean-cut and energetic and expected others to be the same. Therefore, he was not timid about rebuking falsehoods and chicanery masquerading under the guise of reform and virtue. Mr. Reynolds is now dead but his name will long live in Door county as one of the most active, useful and successful citizens of the county of his time.

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#### EDWIN H. CASPERSON.

Edwin H. Casperson, the superintendent of Chambers Island, Door county's largest private estate comprising twenty-five hundred acres of land, was born in Milwaukee, June 24, 1884. He is the son of Hans and Nora Casperson, both of whom were born in Norway. They moved to Milwaukee and later to Liberty Grove, settling on a farm near Sister Bay, where Edwin Casperson received his education.

When Mr. Casperson was twenty years of age he got a job as a common laborer on Chambers Island, then as now owned by F. A. Dennett of Port Washington, Wisconsin. Mr. Casperson quickly proved that he was a man

of more than common ability and of absolute trustworthiness. He was therefore soon given the position of superintendent of the island, which position he still holds. At times quite a number of men are employed on the big island and the demands upon the superintendent are many and varied. He must know how to build a concrete pier; to manage a gasoline launch; to build a house or run a large poultry farm; to take care of the several hundred deer on the island or to take necessary steps in forestry. These and a score of other various occupations are handled most capably by Mr. Casperson and keeps him busy the year around.

Mr. Casperson was married September 1, 1908, to Miss Julia Johnson, a daughter of August Johnson, a pioneer of Ellison Bay. They have two children, Myrtle and Dorothy. Mr. and Mrs. Casperson are active and reliable members of the Ellison Bay Lutheran Church.

While Mr. Casperson is still in his early manhood he has the confidence and high regard of a large circle of friends who have found in him a man of merit and trust. He is quiet and unostentatious, but always well informed and reliable—"an Israelite in whom there is no guile."

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#### ARTHUR P. PARENT.

Arthur P. Parent, the popular hotel keeper of Egg Harbor, was born December 16, 1880, on a farm two miles south of Egg Harbor. He was the second child of Peter P. and Virginia (Baraboo) Parent, well known and respected farmers of the town of Egg Harbor. Peter P. Parent was born in Canada, but came to Egg Harbor when this town was a wilderness and helped to make it the beautiful farming country it now is.

Arthur P. Parent, although still a young man, is counted among the most prosperous in the town. This prosperity he has achieved by no favors of fortune or gifts of others but by his own industry and good management. Concord Hotel, of which he is the sole owner, is one of the most popular hotels in the county. He is also owner of two farms and half owner in two others. He is also extensively engaged in winter time lumbering and logging in company with Thomas F. Carmody.

Mr. Parent is a democrat in his political leanings but has never sought office being too busy in the management of his own affairs to try and run those of others. He was married June 15, 1904, to Miss Margaret M. Carmody, daughter of John W. Carmody, who was one of the very first settlers in the county, coming to Egg Harbor in 1857. To this marriage three children were born: Adel, born April 3, 1905; Grace, born August 29, 1906; and Margaret, born February 22, 1908. Little Grace lost her life in an automobile accident. Mrs. Parent died March 14, 1908, leaving three small children to the father's care. On June 21, 1910, Mr. Parent was married again, his second wife being Olive La Fontaine, whose father, Ezra La Fontaine, came from Canada and settled in the town of Egg Harbor in 1873. Three children have been born to this marriage. These are: Evelyn, born March 10, 1912; Leon, born May 9, 1913; and Helen, born January 28, 1915. Mr. and Mrs. Parent are members of the Catholic church at Egg Harbor.

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